

Mails.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

BREMER.

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINES

FROM	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
KUDAT and SANDAKAN	"BORNEO" Capt. F. Sembill	THURSDAY, 23rd Dec., 5 P.M.
NAPLES, GENOA, ALGIERS, GIBRALTAR, SOUTHAMPTON, ANTWERP and HAMBURG	"GOEBEN" B. Wilhelm	WEDNESDAY, 29th December, Noon.
SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA	"DERFLINGER" Capt. G. Meiners	About WEDNESDAY, 29th December.
MANILA, YAP, NEWGUINEA, BRISBANE, SYDNEY & MELBOURNE	"PRINZ SIGISMUND" Capt. D. Lohr	FRIDAY, 31st Dec., Daylight.
YOKOHAMA and KOBE	"COLENTZ" Capt. D. Lohr	About SATURDAY, 8th January.

For further particulars, apply to

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

MELCHERS & CO.,

GENERAL AGENTS, HONGKONG & CHINA.

Hongkong, 18th December, 1909.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FRENCH MAIL LINES.

FORTNIGHTLY SERVICE TO and FROM EUROPE via SUEZ CANAL.

TO and FROM JAPAN via SHANGHAI.

FOR	STEAMERS	CAPTAINS	TO SAIL ON
SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA	OCEANIE	Sallier	20th Dec., P.M.
MARSEILLES, VIA PORTS	TONKIN	Charbonnel	21st Dec., at 1 P.M.
SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA	NERA	Martin	3rd Jan., P.M.
MARSEILLES, VIA PORTS	POLYNESIE	Broc	4th Jan., at 1 P.M.

Transshipment on the Co's Steamers at Singapore for Batavia; at Colombo for Calcutta, Bombay and Australia; at Port Said for the Levant, Constantinople and Black Sea.

Through Tickets to London via Paris from £27.10 up to £71.10. 20 hours' railway from Marseilles to London.

Interpreters meet passengers at their arrival in Marseilles.

For further particulars, apply to

P. THOMAS,

AGENT,

QUEEN'S BUILDINGS.

Hongkong, 18th December, 1909.

MESSAGERIES CANTONNAISES.

HONGKONG-CANTON-KWANGSI RIVER SERVICE.

S.S. "PAUL BEAU" and "CHARLES HARDOUIN"

Capt. Marabail (1900 tons 14 knots) Capt. Benaime

DEPARTURE:

From HONGKONG the Co's Wharf near Wing Lok Street Every Night at 10 excepting Saturdays.
From CANTON (French Concession, Shameen) Every Evening at 5.15 excepting Sundays.

FARES:—1st CLASS \$5.00, 2nd CLASS \$2.00.

French Cuisine and Wines of the Best Vintage. Meals, \$1.50.

S.S. "ROBERT LEBAUDY" Capt. Vivier

CANTON-WUCHOW SERVICE—SEE SCHEDULE.

For further information, apply to—

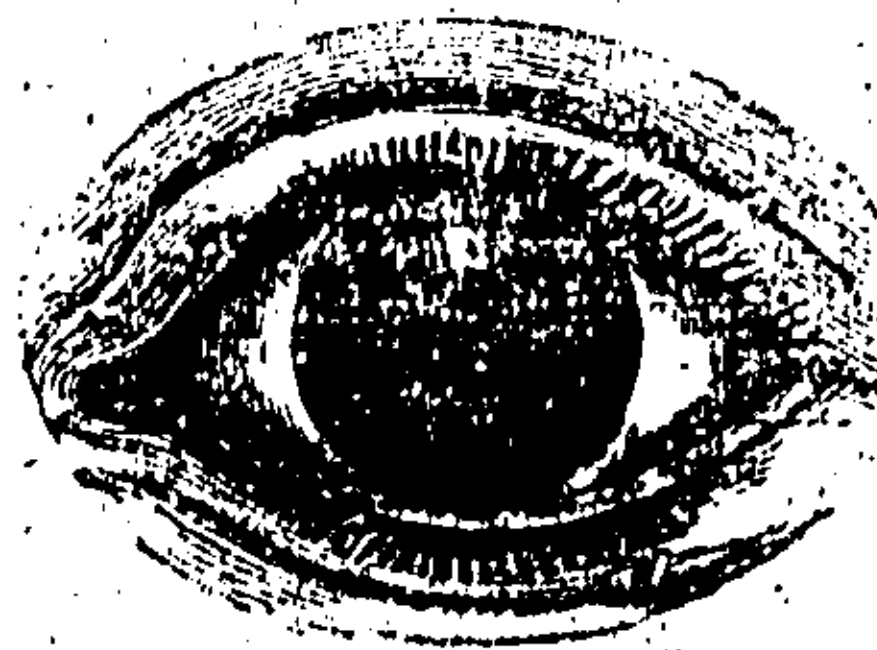
HEAD OFFICE, Canton.

P. A. LAPICQUE & Co., Hongkong (4 Queen's Building, Tel. No. 950)

N.B.—Guides (\$2.00), sedan chairs and bearers (\$1.50) can always be engaged at Canton by starting at about 8 o'clock in the morning on a visit to the picturesque Chinese City, the tourist will find time to view the shops and other places of interest, returning to Shameen at about 3 p.m.
Hongkong, 19th November, 1909.

Intimation.

EYES



RIGHT!

N. LAZARUS, OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN,
CORNER OF D'AGUILAR STREET AND QUEEN'S ROAD.

WILL test your eyes free of charge, and if they are wrong will put them right.

Lenses Ground. All kinds of Repairs. Spectacles for all requirements.
Ask, or write for Illustrated Booklet on "Defective Sight,"—free.LONDON: J. & J. S. B. W. S. (10, Bantock Street)
SHANGHAI: 156, Nanking Road
HONGKONG: 20, Market Street

Intimations.

THE YOKOHAMA DOCK CO., LTD.

No. 1 DOCK.	No. 2 DOCK.	No. 3 DOCK.
Docking Length.....515 ft.	Docking Length.....375 ft.	Docking Length.....481 ft.
Width of Entrance... 80 "	Width of Entrance... 50 "	Width of Entrance... 63 "
Water on Blocks..... 28 "	Water on Blocks ... 26 "	Water on Blocks..... 21.5 "

THESE DOCKS are conveniently situated in Yokohama harbour and the attention of Captains and Engineers is respectfully called to the advantages offered for Docking and repairing Vessels and Machinery of every description.

The plant and tools are of recent patterns for dealing quickly and cheaply with work and a large stock of material is always at hand, (plates and angles all being tested by Lloyd's surveyors).

Two powerful Twin Screw Tugboats are available for taking Vessels in or out of Dock, and for taking Sailing Vessels in or out of the bay. The floating derrick is capable of lifting 40 tons.

Steam Launches of Steel or Wood, Lighters, Steel Buildings and Roofs, Bridge Work, and all kinds of Machinery are made on the premises.

Tenders will be made up when required and the workmanship and material will be guaranteed.

The cost of Docking, and repair work, will be found to compare favourably with that of any port in the world.

A large mooring basin is available alongside our works for mooring vessels whilst under repairs.

Telephone: Nor. 378, 506, or 681.

Telegrams, "Dock, Yokohama," Codes A. B. C. 4th and 5th Edt.

Lobbers, Scotts, A. I., and Watkins.

Yokohama, April 28th, 1903.

PABST EXTRACT.

THE best TONIC for keeping in perfect health in the Tropics.

It is a liquid food in predigested form, containing all the bracing, soothing and toning effects of the choicest hops. Nearly Non-alcoholic.

Highly recommended by the local medical profession in cases of Debility after Malaria, from overwork or other causes, Anemia, Nervousness or Dyspepsia. Samples on application.

ALSO JUST RECEIVED—

PABST (American)—BEER, in barrels of 120 bottles. In view of the arrival of the American fleet in a few days, please order early, as our stock is limited.

SIEMSEN & CO.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 13th December, 1909.

JUST LANDED:

The well-known and famous brandy

"Bisquit Dubouche & Co."

Per Bot.

XXX Very Old Fine\$2.50

V.O.C.B. Guaranteed 20 Years

Old 5.50

ALSO.

QUINQUINA?

QUINQUINA?

DUBONNET?

FRENCH STORE,

Sole Agent,

Hongkong, 30th April, 1900.

REGRET

You will NEVER if you

VISIT

MOHIDEEN & THAHA,

in D'AGUILAR STREET, the

NEW JEWELLERS AND DEALERS

in CEYLON PRECIOUS STONES

of every description, and other GEMS.

Hongkong, 11th August, 1909.

F. BLACKHEAD & Co.

SHIP-OHANDLERS, SAILMAKERS, COAL AND PROVISION MERCHANTS, NAVAL CONTRACTORS AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS, GROUND FLOOR, ST. GEORGE'S BUILDING, HONGKONG, SOAP AND SOAP MANUFACTURERS.

SOLE AGENTS FOR HARTMANN'S RAHTEN'S GENUINE COMPOSITION R&D HAND STAIN, HARTMANN'S GREY PAINT, DAIMLER'S PATENT MOTOR LAUNCHES, &c., &c., &c.

Sole Agents for FERGUSON'S SPECIAL CREAM and P. & O. SPECIAL LIQUOR SCOTCH WHISKY, &c.

EVERY KIND OF SHIP'S STORES AND REQUISITES ALWAYS IN STOCK

AT REASONABLE PRICES

Hongkong, 9th March, 1907.

MOTOR CARS

FOR HIRE.

THE ONLY GARAGE IN TOWN.

MOTOR BOATS

FOR HIRE

ALWAYS AT BLAKE PIER.

NEW BICYCLES

FOR HIRE and SALE.

GENERAL REPAIRERS

OF

TYPEWRITERS, BICYCLES

and MOTORS.

DRAGON CYCLE DEPOT,

55 and 55A, Des Voeux Road.

JAPANESE AND PERSI FUNERAL CUSTOMS.

A COMPARISON.

At a meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan in Tokyo on the 24th ultimo Mr. Edalji made the following remarks as a supplement to a lecture by Professor Arthur Lloyd, on "A Japanese Funeral":

"Mr. Lloyd has, in his admirable and instructive address, chiefly dealt with the philosophical aspect of a Japanese funeral, and I hope you will permit me to say a few words on certain customs connected with a Japanese funeral which bear a marked resemblance to those of the ancient Persians. The Japanese wear white dress and abstain from animal food when they are mourning. This custom prevailed in Persia in ancient times, and is even now observed by the Persians. The ancient Persians adopted white as the colour of mourning, for the reason that it was regarded as a symbol of purity, which was strictly enjoined by their religion. Some of the primitive races, however, believe that the change of dress in mourning is merely meant to prevent their being recognised and harassed by the ghost. White is the mourning colour not only in Japan and Persia, but also in India, China, and Korea. In China the colour of mourning is white as well as blue, and it is significant that although the Hindus follow the ancient Aryan custom in their adoption of white as the mourning colour, some of their deities that were looked upon as demons by the ancient Persians are painted blue. In Japan Buddhist coffin bearers put on blue coats, whereas Shinto coffin bearers, like Parsi coffin bearers, wear white garments. Again, Buddhist priests, like Hindu priests, have shaven heads; whereas Shinto priests, like Parsi priests, have unshaven heads. The intonation of some of the Japanese priests reciting their prayer curiously resembles that of Parsi priests. The Japanese, like the Parsi, and unlike the Chinese, prohibit music on funeral occasions. The North is supposed to be the abode of evil spirits by both the Japanese and the Persians, and for this reason the corpses of the former are laid so as to face south, and never north. The Japanese give the dog dainty food to eat on a funeral occasion; the Persians give it milk. The Japanese feed the horse also with dainty food on a funeral occasion; the horse was a very favourite animal with the ancient Persians, who treated it with special consideration on all occasions. Japanese priests, as well as Parsi priests, regard their breath as impure, and consequently tie a piece of white cloth above the mouth when they perform religious ceremonies. A corpse is looked upon as unclean by both the Japanese and the Persians, who have to undergo purification ceremonies if they touch it. The Japanese as well as the Persians are given water to wash their hands on their return home from a funeral. The Japanese, like the Persians, believe that the souls of the dead have to cross a bridge before entering the other world. The Japanese, especially Japanese Buddhists, bury six coins or six pieces of iron or paper with the remains of the dead, in the belief that if they are presented to six Buddhist deities, Rokujizo, that are supposed to be next in rank to the Buddha only, the dead will be happy in the next world; the Persians believe there are six Archangels in Heaven next in rank to God only.

"I should like to make a very brief reference to the way in which the sitting posture of a Japanese corpse is generally explained. One of the explanations is that it indicates religious meditation. It is also supposed to represent the position of the unborn child in the womb, which probably means that the so-called death at any stage of one's existence is merely a preparation for the life to come. There are two other explanations which seem to be not less probable than those I have already given. The sitting posture is considered honourific, especially in India, where a tribal chief is buried in the posture he assumes at the tribal fire, and an ascetic teacher is interred in the posture in which he addressed his pupils. The other explanation, which goes to the very root of the matter, is that it is merely a survival of the ancient custom of binding a corpse to prevent the ghost from walking."—*Japan Chronicle*.

Intimations.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

In Casks of 375 lbs. net \$5.50 per Cask ex Factory.

In Bags of 250 lbs. net \$3.45 per Bag ex Factory.

SHEWAN TOMES & CO., General Managers.

Hongkong, 15th August, 1908.

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS:

7.00 a.m.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																				
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Intimation.

Powell's

Xmas

Bazaar

OPEN

UNTIL 6 P.M.

DAILY.

POWELL'S

ALEXANDRA

BUILDINGS.

28, Queen's Road.

Hongkong 18th December, 1909.

To Let

TO LET.

OFFICES and ROOMS on the 1st Floor of No. 14, Des Vaux Road Central (formerly occupied by Messrs. Shewan, Tomes & Co.).

Apply to—
THE COMPTROLLER DEPARTMENT,
E. D. Sassoon & Co.,
Queen's Road Central.
Hongkong, 11th September, 1909. [188]

TO LET.

IN No. 6, DES VEAUX ROAD CENTRAL, One Godown.
In No. 5, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, Victoria Building, Rooms suitable for OFFICES.
ROOMS in College Chambers, No. 34, WYNDHAM STREET.

Apply to—
DAVID SASSOON & Co., Ltd.
Hongkong, 18th November, 1909. [187]

TO LET.

GODOWN, No. 4, PRAYA, Kennedy Town.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.
Hongkong, 12nd October, 1909. [173]

TO LET.

NOS. 20 and 21, PRAYA, KENNEDY TOWN, two extensive two-storied semi-detached godowns, ground surface of cement concrete.

No. 1A, Praya, Kennedy Town, one extensive two-storied godown.
All are in first class condition, suitable for storing Rice, Flour, &c.
Rents moderate.

Apply to—
DAVID SASSOON & Co., Ltd.
Hongkong, 8th November, 1909. [176]

TO LET FURNISHED.

"TANTALLON," 125A, Barker Road. Rent \$120.00 per month. Seen by appointment only.

Apply to—
GODDARD & DOUGLAS.
Hongkong, 8th December, 1909. [184]

TO LET.

KING'S BUILDINGS, OFFICES facing the Harbour, from about October, at present in occupation of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.
Hongkong, 3rd June, 1909. [163]

TO LET.

NO. 3, MORRISON HILL. Immediate entry.

Apply to—
Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.
Hongkong, 9th December, 1909. [168]

TO LET.

OFFICES, No. 2, CONNAUGHT ROAD, 3rd Floor.

No. 3 OLIFTON GARDENS, CONDUIT ROAD.
A HOUSE in WONG-MEI-CHONG ROAD.
A HOUSE in RIFON TERRACE.
OFFICES in YORK BUILDING.
GODOWNS in PRAYA EAST, BLUE BUILDINGS, and No. 16A, DES VEAUX ROAD next to the Hongkong Hotel.
FLATS in MORRISON TERRACE.
No. 10, DES VEAUX ROAD CENTRAL 1st Floor.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.
Hongkong, 30th November, 1909. [15]

TO LET.

GODOWN, No. 5A, DUNDRELL STREET.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.
Hongkong, 1st June, 1909. [116]

FURNITURE WAREHOUSE.

LI KWONG LOONG & CO.,
FURNITURE MAKERS AND ART DECORATORS.
From Shanghai, they have opened their FURNITURE STORE

at
No. 59, DES VEAUX ROAD CENTRAL.
The only Shop in Hongkong with this name,
WHERE HIGH-CLASS FURNITURE of every description can be made to order in any design required.

May be patronised by the Hongkong Club, Hongkong Hotel, Telegraph Co., Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., and other leading establishments in the Colony, to whom reference can be made as to the Superior Workmanship and Materials of the Furniture, &c., supplied.

Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., write as follows:—
"We have pleasure in stating that Mr. LI KWONG LOONG furnished the Annex to our Dispensary and gave us every satisfaction."

(Sd.) A. S. WATSON & Co.
23th May, 1909.

ORDERS punctually attended to, and CHARGES most moderate.
AN INFECTIOUS DISEASE
Brought to the notice of the public.

THE TIGERS OF BENGAL.

It is regrettable to find from the Report of Mr. L. McIntire, Conservator of Forests in Bengal, that man-eating tigers were responsible for an abnormal number of deaths in the Sunderbans forest in the year 1907-08. These ferocious animals are reported to have killed no fewer than 120 men during the period indicated which compares with an annual average of 79 victims for the previous five years. The tigers were especially active in the Khulna Coupee, the closure of which was only prevented by the putting down of poisoned deer. The result of this step, it is believed, caused the death of one or two of the most aggressive man eaters. In Singbhum the ravages of tigers were much less serious though 31 men were killed in the forests by these animals. Five tigers, mostly man eaters, were destroyed in the Singbhum forests during the year and the measures adopted to exterminate tigers in the Division are described as fairly effective. No other Division reported forest deaths from wild animals, though elephants effected the usual amount of damage and in many places caused scores which interfered with the progress of forest works. It appears that in 1907-08 rewards were paid for killing eleven Sunderbans tigers and we are told that fresh measures were devised for the destruction of these pests. As the report under review is dated October 8th, 1909, though it has only just been published, it is possible that the measures have before now been put into operation and have had a beneficial effect. But the difficulty of exterminating the tiger in the Sunderbans is almost insurmountable, owing to the density of the jungle, indeed it has sometimes happened that while a sportsman has imagined that he has been stalking a tiger the beast was actually stalking him. The Sunderbans tiger has for centuries had a bad reputation as a man eater. Bernier writing of the district more than two hundred years ago said: "It is in many places dangerous to land, and great care must be had that the boat, which during the night is fastened to a tree, be kept at some distance from the shore, for it constantly happens that some person or another falls a prey to tigers." These ferocious animals are very apt, it is said, to enter the boat itself, and to carry away some victim, who, if we are to believe the boatmen of the country, generally happens to be the stoutest and fattest of the party. The Gazetteer of Khulna, edited by Mr. L. S. O'Malley of the Indian Civil Service, which contains much highly interesting information relating to wild animals in the Sunderbans, recalls the reasons once given by Sir Henry Farrington, Deputy Conservator of Forests, formerly in charge of the Division, for prevalence of man-eaters in this area. It was, he said, probably the result of tigers being fired at by native shikaris, who as a rule used only small slugs which wounded and irritated the animal without killing it. The diminution in the number of deer caused by the wholesale slaughter by native shikaris also tended, he affirmed, to the multiplication of man-eaters, since in forests where game was plentiful the tiger would avoid mankind. But as we have shown the Sunderbans tiger had a bad reputation when deer must have been plentiful. Sir Henry Farrington, however, stated as a curious fact, that man-eaters were most prevalent in the localities frequented by the native shikari. It is not surprising that wood-cutters should dread entering forests infested by such ferocious beasts. No wood-cutter indeed will do so, it is said, unless in the company of a fakir who is supposed to exercise power over tigers and wild animals generally. Before work is commenced the fakir assembles all the members of his party in a clearing at the edge of the forest, and erects a number of huts in which he places images of certain deities. After offerings have been presented to the images the particular forest is declared to be free of tigers and the wood-cutter, in virtue of the presents they have made to the deities, are supposed to be under their special protection. If after all these precautions a tiger seizes one of the party the fakir speedily takes his departure without waiting to offer superfluous explanations.

LIFE FOR SCIENCE.

YOUNG DOCTOR'S SACRIFICE IN DISCOVERING A CURE.

To the roll of those who have lost their lives in the cause of scientific medical research the name of Dr. John Herbert Wells must be added.

In February 1908, Dr. Wells undertook at St. Mary's Hospital pioneer investigation of the treatment of glanders, and in the course of laboratory work, which resulted in saving the life of the patient from this, till then, hopeless disease, contracted infection himself and died, after eighteen months' suffering, at the early age of thirty, leaving a widow and two small children almost totally unprovided for.

A committee has been formed, consisting of Mr. Balfour, Lord Dalhousie, Lord Justice Fletcher Moulton, Sir Almoth Wright, and others and they now appeal to the public for donations to be held in trust for Wells' widow and children.

VICTORIA CROSS POSTMAN.

Mr. Thomas Ashford, a rural messenger, who covers a daily round of 20 miles in the Whitwick district of Leicestershire, is the only postman in the British Isles who has the right to wear the Victoria Cross. A correspondent called the attention of Earl Roberts to Ashford's distinction, and his lordship has replied as follows:—I am very glad to hear that Thomas Ashford, V. C., late of the Royal Fusiliers, is doing well in civil life. I should think it most probable that he is the only V. C. postman in the British Isles. Will you kindly tell Ashford how glad I am to hear of his well-being, and that I wish him a steady continuance of it.

Intimations.

DONE BY TRYING.

Nobody can tell what he can do till he tries. When a thing ought to be done the modern spirit moves us to keep working away at it until it is done. In the face of this idea the "impossible" vanishes. Where there's a will, there's a way. "If we could but rob cod liver oil of its sickening taste and smell and then combine it with two or three other ingredients we should possess the best remedy in the world for certain diseases that are now practically incurable." So said a famous English physician twenty-five years ago. "But," will never be done," he added. "You can no more turn cod liver oil into a pleasant palatable medicine, than you can turn the Codfish itself into a Bird of Paradise." Yet he lived to admit that in

WAMPOL'S PREPARATION the "impossible" had been accomplished. It is palatable as honey and contains all the nutritive and curative properties of Pure Cod Liver Oil, extracted by us from fresh cod livers, combined with the Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites, Extracts of Malt and Wild Cherry. This remedy is freed from the bad peculiarities Dr. Frothingham so detested, and it is precisely the splendid medicine he wished for. Use it freely and confidently for Anemia, Hysteria, Wasting Complaints, Blood Impurities, Asthma, and Throat and Lung Troubles, Dr. W. B. Atkins, F. R. C. P., London—M. D. C. M., Victoria University—M. B., Toronto University—Consulting Physician to Home for Incurables, Physician to Toronto General Hospital, says: "I am much pleased to state that the results from using Wampol's Preparation of Cod Liver Oil have been uniformly satisfactory; it appealed to me as being prepared according to correct scientific principles." It increases the appetite and influences the digestion of food; it is delicious to take, will not disappoint you and is effective from the first dose. "It represents the dawn of progress." At chemists everywhere.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

MEMBERS requiring PRIVATE STAND and STABLE ACCOMMODATION in the Jockey Club Compound are requested to apply to the undersigned.

T. F. HOUGH,
Clerk of the Course.

Hongkong, 17th December, 1909. [185]

THE OFFICES of Sanitary Department will be REMOVED from 20, Des Vaux Road Central to the SECOND FLOOR of BEACONFIELD, Bittery Path, on SUNDAY, the 19th instant.

All communications to the Department should be sent to Beaconfield on and after the 19th instant.

W. BOWEN ROWLANDS,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 17th December, 1909. [186]

HARBOUR MASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

IT is hereby notified that information has been received from the Military Authorities that GUN PRACTICE will be carried out as under:—

On MONDAY, the 20th December:—
From the East of Hongkong and from Devil's Peak in a South-Easterly to North-Westerly direction, commencing at 7 p.m. and finishing (if the range is clear) at about 10 p.m. A clear range is required up to 6,750 yards.

On TUESDAY, the 21st December:—
From the West of Hongkong and Stonecutters in a South-Westerly to North-Westerly direction, commencing at 10 a.m. and finishing (if the range is clear) at about 2 p.m. A clear range is required up to 10,750 yards.

If the weather is unfavourable on either of the above dates, practice will take place on the following day.

All ships, junks and other vessels are to keep clear of the range.

BASIL TAYLOR,
Commander, R.N.,
Harbour Master, &c.

Hongkong, 17th December, 1909. [188]

"SOLIGNUM."

A PERFECT preservative stain for Wood, Stone, and Brickwork.

It protects against Decay, Fungus, Dry Rot, the Ravages of Insects and Vermin (especially the white ant) and the action of the weather.

"Solignum" really does what is claimed for it, as may be seen from the testimonials of the Governments of India, the Sudan, &c.

In Drums and Barrels of various colours.

Prospectus and all further information from

SIEMSEN & CO.,
(Machinery Dept.) Hongkong

Sole Agents.
Hongkong, 7th December, 1909. [182]

LEE YEE

HAIR DRESSING SALOON.

HAS ALWAYS ON HAND

CIGARS, CIGARETTES

AND

TOILET REQUISITES

FOR SALE.

17, D'AVANIER STREET,

HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 18th September, 1909. [167]

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED,

ON

WEDNESDAY,
the 22nd December, 1909, at 2.30 P.M., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, corner of Ice House Street,

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF
JAPANESE CURIOS,

COMPRISING:—

Carved Cherrywood Bookcase, Writing Desk, Tables, Chairs and Stands, Brass Buddhas and Temple Lanterns, Kinkosan Satsuma Tea and Coffee Sets, Vases, Bowls, Silver and Gold Cloisonne Vases and Bowls, Ivory Carvings, Silk-embroidered Screen, Gold Damascene Ware, Kaga Tea Sets, &c., &c.

Catalogues will be issued.

TERMS:—As usual.

Hongkong, 16th December, 1909.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.

[183]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED,

on

TUESDAY,
the 21st December, 1909, at 4 P.M., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, corner of Ice House Street,

A GREAT ASSORTMENT OF
X'MAS TOYS.

Catalogues will be issued.

TERMS:—As usual.

Hongkong, 16th December, 1909.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.

[184]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned will sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, on WEDNESDAY,

the 22nd December, 1909, at 2.30 P.M., at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street,
WHITE WITNEY BLANKETS, LACE CURTAINS, HAND-EMBROIDERED PILLOW CASES, TOPSHEETS, BLEACHED SHEETING, DOUBLE WRAP SHEETING, SATIN QUILTS, TRAVELLING RUGS, TOWELS and BATH SHEETS, DOUBLE DAMASK TABLE CLOTHS and SERVIETTES, &c., &c.

ALSO
A Varied Assortment of X'MAS TOYS and JEWELRY (Suitable for X'mas Presents). The above are all just unpacked. On view on Tuesday p.m.

TERMS:—As usual.
GEO. P. LAMMERT,
Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 16th December, 1909. [181]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED,

on

THURSDAY,
the 23rd December, 1909, at 2.30 P.M., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, corner of Ice House Street,

A GREAT ASSORTMENT OF
X'MAS TOYS,
AND
A Quantity of BOOKS.

TERMS:—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 16th December, 1909. [146]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, on

MONDAY,
the 20th December, 1909, commencing at 3.30 P.M., at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street,

A LARGE SELECTION OF
FANCY GOODS,

Comprising:—
BRONZE STATUETTES, CARD TRAYS, FLOWER STANDS and FLAQUES, HANDSOME STANDARD and TABLE LAMPS, FANCY GLASS-WARE, VASES, TANTALUS LIQUOR STANDS, PHOTO ALBUMS, LEATHER GOODS, &c., &c.

ALSO
A Quantity of MECHANICAL TOYS;
AND
CUTLERY and TABLE SERVICE FITTED in POLISHED CASES (all suitable for Xmas presents).

On View day of Sale,
GEO. P. LAMMERT,
Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 16th December, 1909. [184]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, on

TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY,
the 21st and 22nd December, 1909, at 10 A.M., at H.M. Naval Establishments,

SUNDRY OLD and SURPLUS NAVAL and VICTUALLING STORES,

Comprising:—
OLD and SURPLUS NAVAL STORES:—FIRE ENGINE, HOSES, LAMPS and LANTERNS, TOOLS, OLD IRON and METAL, ELECTRIC CABLES, SWITCHES, HYDRAULIC PUMP, COAL SACKS, CANVAS BAGS, OLD INDIA RUBBER, OLD LEATHERS, CARPETS, MATTINGS, OLD BOATS, FURNITURE, &c., &c.

OLD and SURPLUS VICTUALLING STORES:—PROVISIONS, SEAMEN'S CLOTHING, BLANKETS, OFFICERS' MESS TRAPS, A quantity of Electric-plated Articles and Table Linens, IMPLEMENTS, SEAMEN'S MESS UTENSILS, OAK STAVES, &c.

Catalogues will be issued.

TERMS OF SALE:—As Customary.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Government Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 16th December, 1909. [180]

THERAPION MAY NOW ALSO BE OBTAINED IN DRAGON (TASTELESS) FORM.

SELF CURE NO FICTION! MARVEL UPON MARVEL! NO SUFFERER NEED NOW DESPAIR.

but without running a doctor's bill or falling into the deep ditch of quackery, may safely, gently and economically cure himself without the knowledge of a second party.

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY THERAPION

a complete revolution has been wrought in the department of medical science, whilst thousands have been restored to health and happiness who for years previously had been miserably dragging out a miserable existence.

THERAPION No. 1.—The Sovereign Remedy for all diseases, superseding all other remedies, the use of which does irreparable harm by having the foundation of structure and other essential diseases.

THERAPION No. 2.—The Sovereign Remedy for all diseases, superseding all other remedies, the use of which does irreparable harm by having the foundation of structure and other essential diseases.

THERAPION No. 3.—The Sovereign Remedy for all diseases, superseding all other remedies, the use of which does irreparable harm by having the foundation of structure and other essential diseases.

THERAPION No. 4.—The Sovereign Remedy for all diseases, superseding all other remedies, the use of which does irreparable harm by having the foundation of structure and other essential diseases.

THERAPION No. 5.—The Sovereign Remedy for all diseases, superseding all other remedies, the use of which does irreparable harm by having the foundation of structure and other essential diseases.

THERAPION No. 6.—The Sovereign Remedy for all diseases, superseding all other remedies, the use of which does irreparable harm by having the foundation of structure and other essential diseases.

THERAPION No. 7.—The Sovereign Remedy for all diseases, superseding all other remedies, the use of which does irreparable harm by having the foundation of structure and other essential diseases.

THERAPION No. 8.—The Sovereign Remedy for all diseases, superseding all other remedies, the use of which does irreparable harm by having the foundation of structure and other essential diseases.

THERAPION No. 9.—The Sovereign Remedy for all diseases, superseding all other remedies, the use of which does irreparable harm by having the foundation of structure and other essential diseases.

THERAPION No. 10.—The Sovereign Remedy for all diseases, superseding all other remedies, the use of which does irreparable harm by having the foundation of structure and other essential diseases.

Intimation.



A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

AERATED WATER

MANUFACTURERS.

SPECIALITIES:

DRY GINGER ALE.

LIME FRUIT CHAMPAGNE.

ORANGE CHAMPAGNE.

STONE GINGER BEER.

PALATABLE

AND

REFRESHING.

Watson's

FRUIT SYRUPS

mixed with aerated or plain water

make excellent refreshing beverages.

Guaranteed to be made from the

pure juice of sound ripe fruit.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

HONGKONG and KOWLOON.

Hongkong, 15th July, 1909.

NOTICE.

All communications intended for publication in "THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" should be addressed to The Editor, 1, Lee House Road, and should be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address.

Ordinary business communications should be addressed to The Manager.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MS., nor to return any Contribution.

MARRIAGE.

On December 11, 1909, at Shanghai, Alfred Rudolph Davies, to Marguerite Warwick Gutierrez.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1909

THE SIBERIAN MAIL ROUTE.

It is not exactly satisfactory to learn from the figures referred to at the Legislative Council the other day that the increasing popularity of the Siberian mail route has involved the Colony in an increased burden of at least \$47,000. Already \$500,000 had been provided in the Estimates for 1909 for transit charges and here we have another 50 per cent. advance, which is surely out of all proportion to the general rate. That the Siberian route is proving of immense value to the mercantile community we have not the slightest doubt, for if you can send a letter to England and receive a reply in six weeks why wait two months for it? But if the correspondence which is passing over the Siberian route has been diverted from the sea, there should be a corresponding decrease in the transit charges by the latter. It cannot be suggested that the Colony is paying for a service which is not given, that it is paying the same to-day for the carriage of a lesser number of letters carried by the steamer lines. But no light was thrown on the many interesting and important questions which will occur to the reader's mind in connection with the passage of mails over the Siberian railway. Indeed, the matter would have been passed over without comment if it had not been for Dr. Ho Kai, who inquired whether it was just that those who make use of the Siberian route should have the excess cost paid by the ratepayers who did not make use of it? The only answer to that was that Imperial policy was at the bottom of it so no

more need be said on the subject. But that is no answer at all. The same sort of flippant reply could be given with reference to any and every financial vote and the public would be just as ignorant of what Imperial policy was or what was really being done with the money as ever. All they would now would be that in obedience to the commands of some official potentate in London, supported by some other official luminary in Hongkong, the taxpayers should be called upon to pay for what might be more or less an unknown quantity. From the official point of view that may be all very well. It is admitted that all the people are useful for is to pay taxes and look happy. Not theirs to reason why, let them "stump up" and sigh and no questions allowed. If they do ask embarrassing questions they are fobbed off with the curt remark, "It is Imperial policy." Of course it can always be urged that any acceleration in the delivery of mails is of value to the merchants and through them to the general public at large. And that no doubt is a fact, although the ordinary individual never thinks about the Siberian route at all. But what we should like to know is what additional expenses amounting to the very large sum of \$47,000 have been incurred to secure those advantages? The suggestion would seem to be that the Colony is throwing away money in order to maintain the Siberian postal service, and the more letters that are sent by that route from Hongkong the greater will be the drain on the finances of the Colony. What will it be when the Day arrives permitting letters for the United Kingdom to be sent from Hongkong via Canton, Hankow and Peking? Will that involve a still further outlay, and, if it does, is there a corresponding outlay on the part of the home Government? No attempt was made to offer any explanation which could be deemed in the least degree satisfactory and Dr. Ho Kai did not press the question. The fact that the vote was the very last item on the list of business for the day, that members were already packing up their chattels preparatory to leaving the Council for the Christmas holidays, that the last session has been the most arduous experienced in years, and that everybody was sufficed with legislative business may account for the lethargy shown over this question but it certainly deserved more than a mere quibbling answer to the effect that "It is Imperial policy."

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The German mail of the 17th November was delivered in London on the 17th inst.

An attempt to assassinate the President of the H. Chi Hoi Society at Seoul, has been prevented.

CONTINUED activity is being shown by the Hungtuts (native mounted bandits) in the districts traversed by the Antung-Mukden Railway.

INVITATIONS have been issued by the staff of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. for the annual ball at the Kowloon Docks, on Friday, the 31st inst., at 8.30 p.m.

NEGOTIATIONS are to be opened at Harbin next week to settle the details of the Russo-Chinese Agreement regarding the administration of railway zones in North Manchuria.

FOUR new members were admitted to the Shanghai Stock Exchange during the past week, and the result has been a large increase in the number of transactions recorded.

His Excellency the Governor has kindly promised to open the new wing of St. Stephen's College on Monday afternoon at 3 p.m. Those who are interested are cordially invited to attend.

THE latest British-owned sailer vessel afloat has arrived in Bombay in the *Brilliant*, 3,600 tons, owned by the Anglo-American Oil Co., which took 114 days on the voyage from New York.

At the meeting of the Sanitary Board on Tuesday next, a report of the Committee appointed to inquire into and deal with complaints against the Kowloon scavenging and conservancy contractor will be considered.

It is reported that 620 Korean fishing vessels were wrecked off Sipo, South Hamgyong province, Korea, during the storm on the 29th ultimo. Many other vessels are also said to have been wrecked along the coast of North-Eastern Korea.

RECRUITING of Javanese labourers for planting work in Coochin-China has begun in Java. Permission to that end having just been secured from Government. The first batch will be 25 strong and will be engaged for labour on a rubber estate at Phu-quo.

ON November 8, a pitched battle took place at Dunkirk, on the British steamer *Westminster*, just arrived from Saigon, between English sailors and the native crew. Bludgeons were used, and about a dozen of the combatants were injured; two of the natives being seriously hurt.

THE Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the fund of the hospitals:—
A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd. \$50
Guedes & Co. 5

DURING the coming week Bishop Ingham's time will be occupied with engagements in and around Hongkong. On Wednesday at 5.30 p.m. he will address Church Workers in St. John's Cathedral. The Bishop and Mrs. Ingham will leave for Colombo by the s.s. *Della* on Christmas Day.

It is estimated that Mr. Valentine Cary's future income, even should rubber come down to two-and-six per lb., is as much as £50,000 per annum. Mr. Cary has four sons, and there will be plenty for them to do in the Straits in future years should they wish to do it, says the *Times of Malaya*.

ACCORDING to the Stamp Amendment Ordinance, 1909, on and after the 1st day of January, 1910, the stamp duty will be 5 cents on receipts or discharge for the payment of money or in acquittal of a debt paid in money or otherwise, when the sum received, discharged, or acquitted exceeds \$10.

HIS Excellency the Governor has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty the King, to the following Ordinances passed by the Legislative Council:—Ordinance No. 44 of 1909.—An Ordinance to amend the Stamp Ordinance, 1909. Ordinance No. 45 of 1909.—An Ordinance to amend the Squatters Ordinance, 1890. Ordinance No. 46 of 1909.—An Ordinance to amend the Liquor Licences Extension Ordinance, 1908, and to repeal the Liquor Licences Amendment Ordinance, 1902.

MID Japa, though so well-known geographically, is still a promising field for explorers. For instance, Dr. Davis of the University of Prague (Bohemia), is now busy in research to study the singular river system there. The streams in the mountain region resemble rivers in their upper courses, but lower down they disappear among rocks and do not turn up again until near the sea shore. He and a fellow-scientist will also turn their attention to certain peculiar grottoes there. After bringing their researches to a finish, they will proceed to Australia.

A CHINAMAN, who is a washerman by profession, appeared in the Police Court this morning on a charge of the alleged unlawful possession of 83 tins of corned beef. The tins were found concealed in a bundle of linen which the man was carrying and are said to have been unlawfully obtained from the military stores at Lyemun Barracks. The *dhobie's* explanation was that he had bought the tins from a European soldier for the sum of \$4 and the latter on being questioned said that he had given them away. The case was remanded, pending inquiries by the military authorities.

THE Minister for External Affairs (Mr. L. E. Groom), has granted the application of the Chinese residents of Sydney for a teacher of their language to enter the Commonwealth and remain there for three years. An undertaking has been given that at the end of the period he will return. The Chinese Reform Association, which interested itself in the matter, has written a letter to Senator Pulsford, thanking him on behalf of the association and other Chinese for the active part he had taken to bring the matter before the Government, and secure an alteration of its first decision.

THE Right Reverend Bishop Ingham in company with the Right Reverend the Bishop of Victoria returned to-day from a week's visit in the country districts east of Canton. During the tour Bishop Lanier dedicated three churches in different villages. These buildings had been ancestral halls and after being renovated at the expense of the residents, they have been handed over for Christian worship. Large numbers of those who were interested in the Gospel attended at every service and before leaving the district the Bishops were present at the half-yearly meeting of the Chinese Church Council.—*Communicated*.

RECENTLY, says a Chinese report, Prince Kung, the Chief Anti-Opium Commissioner, in considering the question of opium prohibition, pointed out that there were four difficulties in the way of suppressing opium in Kansu province: 1. That nearly seventy per cent of the population were opium-smokers; 2. That opium growing is the means of living for a large portion of the people; 3. The utility of the methods inaugurated by the former Viceroy, Sheng Yui; 4. The turbulence of the people, who are not amenable to order. In view of these drawbacks he deemed it necessary to adopt other plans of working, in order to secure more effective results. The Government concurred with the Commissioner's opinion on the subject.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that Saturday, the 25th December, and Monday, the 27th December, 1909, and Saturday, the 31st January, 1910, will be kept as public holidays, and Thursday, the 10th February, 1910, will be kept as a Bank holiday in the Colony. His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Monday, the 3rd January, 1910, and Friday, the 11th February, 1910, to be observed as a public and a Bank holiday respectively, in addition to the above holidays.

The Police Magistrates' Department is excluded from the operation of the Holidays Ordinance, on Monday, the 27th day of December, 1909, Monday, the 3rd January, 1910, and Friday, the 11th February, 1910.

The offices of the Supreme Court will be open daily from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. during the Christmas vacation (which commences on the 24th instant and terminates on the 1st January, 1910), except on public holidays when the offices will be entirely closed.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

FORMALLY ADJOURNED THIS MORNING.

The Criminal Sessions were formally opened before Mr. Justice Gompertz, Puisne Judge, in the Supreme Court this morning and adjourned until Monday. The list of cases to be tried is as follows:—*Ho Hon Fung Kam, Leung Fat and Leung Sang*, detaining children with intent to sell and deprive parents of possession; *Chao See and others*, robbery; *Li Kwai*, accessory to robbery and receiving stolen goods; *Cheng Fok*, detaining person with intent to sell.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

THE V.R.C. REGATTA.

After the lapse of a number of years since the last water carnival held under the auspices of the Victoria Recreation Club, it will be admitted that Saturday's regatta was an unequalled success from every point of view. Some slight hitch, it is true, occurred during the progress of the day's events, but these *concelamps*, as sometimes happen in important organizations, were unavoidable, and had to be borne cheerfully by those on whose shoulders fell the brunt of the work. There was a great deal of hard burning over the results of certain races and the air was thick on Saturday afternoon with united cries of the might-have-beens, but, needless to remark, that was hardly the spirit with which to view the results of hard-fought races. Vague insinuations were made in certain quarters that there was going to be a general scramble among certain competitors for the capture of gilded cups, a regular hot-hunting expedition, as it were, but these insinuations had been in point of fact no foundation and there is little doubt that the best men in each race came out victorious. Considering the success which attended the aquatic festival, it is up to the Colony's sportsmen to try and sustain the V.R.C.'s sporting reputation. It is to be hoped that the old Club will send out representative men to participate in the Governor's Regatta, which can only be accomplished by full interest being sustained in the sports.

AN OVERWORKED DEPARTMENT.

What hard times our local magistrates are having. The other day an overworked staff had to patiently wait and see a case through at an hour which had, perhaps, seldom been experienced by them before. There was not even an occasional Plowdenism to cheer those who had to perform to remain in the Court-room but what might have struck the attentive listener was the popping of mysterious bottles, extremely irritating to the ear, in the Court-room, which was afterwards discovered to have been caused by the Chinese employees who proceeded to "regale" themselves in the usual manner after the day's work. Outside it rained and a bit diversified by faint sounds of scale practice on a piano which must have seen its best days. The "meows" of the Police kittens also helped to intensify the general discord and all things combined would undoubtedly have proved a regular inferno had the scene been laid in the sweltering summer months.

CHRISTMASIDE.

Christmas day is fast approaching and with it are revived happy recollections of our childhood days. This is a time which we are wont to describe as bearing peace and goodwill to all men and whether it be in the darkest depths of India or in the bosom of Far Cathay, the occasion has the same fascination for young and old as it has exercised for centuries past. The Colony's shop-windows have for weeks past displayed those particular objects which bring gladness to the little ones and remind the grown-ups of their little obligations to friends abroad. Hongkong, as other places where civilization has spread its blessed wings, is doubtless preparing for "A Merry Christmas."

ENGLISH AS SHE IS WRITTEN.

That curious product known as Japanned English is by no means confined to the land of the Rising Sun, for we can find beautiful examples of murdered specimens of the King's English at our own doorstep. An observant individual could hardly have failed to notice on a local shop-window a placard which bore the interesting announcement of "Cheep sale." Another enterprising shop-keeper went one better with "Window blinas" while a third sought to attract customers with "New goods for Christmas present." Those are some of the pleasures of walking through Hongkong's streets.

FIFTY THE POOR A.D.C.

An Indian sporting journal has been lying bare in gloomy vein to a weary world the trials and vicissitudes of Colonial A.D.C.'s. Most people fondly imagine that as A.D.C.'s, especially of the Colonial variety, has only to have a sufficient stock of good looks and that amiable disposition described by newspapers with the aid of the magic epithet "genial." But according to the journal in question, an A.D.C.'s life is by no means all beer and skittles. This is how it jangles through its columns on the subject.—Mr. Abergh Mackay and other unintentionally cruel people have given us from time to time little thumb-nail pictures of the "gorgeous Viceroy A.D.C." and presented him to the world as a gay and insouciant being whose path is strewn with flowers and whose person is bespattered with gold lace, and in his hours of ease, the most beautiful of multi. He is held up to us as the embodiment of all that is ornamental and, parenthetically, ineffective. All that he is supposed to require is a beautiful figure, and pleasing smile, and a vast store of good-temper and money. Like many another thing there is a reverse to this bright and glittering medallion. Beer and skittles are not the end-all and be-all of the A.D.C.'s existence, and though in India his sad wife has some moments that are green, and even pink, no one has ever really disclosed the long grey patches that form the background. We remember, for instance, a case of a wretched A.D.C., who was longing for bed but who had to remain because His Excellency (of a past time we would particularly specify) was having a good time and showed no signs of leaving the merry revel at which they happened to be. The poor young officer strolled languidly into the buffet and meeting a gay and irresponsible lot of friends who were having supper said in a voice punctuated by cavernous yawns:—

"Has anyone seen my old Imperial sportsman anywhere?" Hardly had he got the words out of his mouth than a voice of chilling and fearful politeness rose from behind a big pot palm and said:—
"Yes, Sir! Here's your old Imperial sportsman!"
But in the Colonies they do not have even so good a time as all this, and we read in a Sydney paper the following account of the dreary life of the solitary A. D. C. permitted to Colonial Governors.
"Probably no married man on earth, and least of all a newly-married one, could adequately discharge the duties of a State Governor's A. D. C. They bear no relation to the duties of one in attendance on the Gov. General. For every Blind-Paralytic Association which is formally opened under the supervision of the G. G. and staff at least 47 institutions of the kind are started in the presence of the State Governor and his only A.D.C. When not superintending the birth of Blind-Paralytic Associations the State Viceregal are hard at it inaugurating Sales of Work, Flower Shows, Asylums for Incurable Free-traders, Abernethy Tabernacles, Pleasant Sundry Yelps, Homes for Decayed Elephants, and a thousand other affairs of the kind. And always the lonely overworked A.D.C. is there, smiling in haggardness and trying to look as though he didn't hate the whole business with a complete curse. The State A.D.C.'s normal day consists in attending with his chief at anything from one to half a dozen "opening," and then appearing as an Unlicensed Victuallers' Ball in the evening, after (possibly) a formal dinner at the Commercial Wanderers' Club. It is calculated to give any young man who has not that complete captivity of soul and absolute leisure which go with celibacy, a nervous breakdown within a month or less."
In India, of course, too much is known of what is demanded and expected of the A.D.C. for one moment to even contemplate him as a Benedict. The very nature of his duties towards the feminine population would make life insupportable—if he had a wife of his own.

"HENDON HALL" ADRIPT.

CABLES SNAP LIKE THREADS.

A mishap, similar to that which occurred to the steamer *Longships* at Pulo Brani some months ago, happened to the steamer *Hendon Hall* on Saturday while discharging a cargo of Indian coal at the same berth, reports the *Singapore Free Press* of 30th ult. All was well up to 2.30 p.m. on Saturday when the first sign of trouble, owing to the strong ebb tide running, was the weakening of a mooring post, which eventually, under the tremendous strain, gave way, and the ship began drifting with the current. Half the coal workers were left on board and half ashore as the vessel glided away and dropped anchor, at once. Extra precautions had been taken to make the vessel secure, new wire hawsers and the stoutest Manila hemp breams employed, but these broke like pack threads when the strain came, and it was a case of going aground a little further on but, happily, beyond a cluck or two being knocked out at the stern, the steamer had suffered no damage whatever. As soon as the accident was reported the steamer *Varuna* was despatched and Pilot Wilson was also on the spot to render all necessary aid. The steamer remained aground from 2.30 to 5.30 p.m. and when the flood tide set in, the *Varuna* succeeded in towing the steamer off. It is an agreed point that something in the shape of proper sailing mooring buoys must be put down at Pulo Brani to prevent danger to vessels, and this being the second within a few months, the time to do it is imperative. It may be mentioned that a new "dolphin" post put in some time ago withstood the strain but the wire hawser connecting the ship with it, unfortunately, broke away. It is also pointed out that extra strong bollards might with advantage be fixed to the wharf. Capt. W. D. Lewis, in command of the *Hendon Hall*, remarks that Saturday's accident was about the last thing he expected and that it naturally caused him great anxiety when he found his fine vessel drifting. The *Hendon Hall* is now discharging another lot of coal at the East Wharf, and will finish the balance of cargo, later on, at the Smelting Works.

AUSTRALIAN COAL STRIKE.

CHINA DOESN'T WORRY.

"Someone has been drawing upon his imagination," said a leading member of the Chinese Merchants' Society, when seen by a representative of the *Daily Telegraph* yesterday afternoon (9th ult.) regarding a statement that the Chinese in Sydney cabled the news of the Chinese coalfields.
"We have not done it," pursued the representative Chinese. "Some private person may have done so, but that does not involve the Chinese of Sydney."

It was further pointed out that the strike at present could not affect China in any way. Her foreign supplies are drawn from Japan, as was stated yesterday, but the explosion of industrial affairs within the Empire will naturally carry with it the development of the Empire's resources. Railways will be the main factor in bringing this about. There is the capital with which to put the coalfields into effective working trim, but transport facilities are absent.

The province of Kwang-si, close to Canton, is one of the many provinces of China which abound in coal, but the transport down the western river in steamers of light draught will not permit of the output being readily placed upon the market. Hongkong is the nearest port, and the journey will occupy the most of the working days of a week. Under these restricted conditions the Kwang-si coal mines could not do much to cope with any serious shortage that might come in the wake of a protracted strike by Australian miners.

"If we had the Canton-Kowloon line completed—but that will take at least two years—we could send in aid and help to ease any coal famine in any part of the world. But until these facilities are at our disposal we are not quite able to supply our own demands. We scarcely know our own power yet," said the Chinese merchants' representative, "but when we have railway facilities we can supply the world, and the more strikes you have in Australia the better it will be for us. In 18 provinces of China coal is to be found in plenty, and as far north as Manchuria there are rich deposits. This would, of course, have to be shipped at Vladivostok, and it would scarcely come into competition in the Australian market as against the mineral from the more closely-situated southern ports. The people of China have no need to worry over the miners' strike."

CHARGES AGAINST SHIPPING AGENT.

New York, Nov. 5.

The first of a number of indictments, which, it is believed, involve many other Transatlantic steamship companies, led to the arrest yesterday of Mr. Gips, general agent of the Holland-America Line, on the charge of the violation of the Interstate Commerce Law by receiving rebates from three railways. Mr. Gips entered a plea of "Not guilty," and was admitted to bail in \$100,000 (£10,000). There are two indictments, containing ten and 20 counts respectively, and he is liable to a maximum fine of \$20,000 (£2,000) and two years' imprisonment on each count. According to the *World*, the rebates were obtained on shipments to inland points after arrival in New York, the foreign shippers delivering goods into the company's charge for transmission to their destination. (*Times* Cor.)

TYPHOON WARNING.

The following telegram was received at the American Consulate-General from the Manila Observatory at 10.40 a.m. to-day:—
December 8th, 10 a.m. (Cyclone or typhoon near or over Palau Islands, moving W. or W.N.W.)

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

At 10 o'clock in the morning of the 16th instant a train going to Pa Kong Hsu from Woongah knocked down a man sixty-four years of age, near the Sun Kai station. The poor man had one leg run over by the train and was so badly injured that he is not expected to live. The man was removed to the Canton Fong Pin Hospital for treatment.

EXECUTION.

Yesterday the notorious robber Wong Ah Woo, who was extradited to Canton from Hongkong some time ago, was taken out of the Nambai prison to the execution ground and was beheaded in the presence of the Nambai Magistrate and other officials. The British Consul at Canton was communicated with to witness the criminal undergoing the capital punishment.

OPIUM PERMITS.

The Canton Government Anti-opium Bureau has established a branch office in the Hing Lung street where triplicate permits are issued to opium merchants to cover their purchases on importation. In case of transit to the interior from Canton, such permits must be applied from that office to cover the opium a day before shipment.

GERMAN FLAGSHIP ARRIVES.

H.L.G.M. "SCHARNHORST" IN PORT.

The German cruiser *Scharnhorst*, flying the flag of Rear-admiral von Ingenohl, commander-in-chief of the German Squadron in the East, arrived this afternoon. Salutes were exchanged with the port and Admiral the Hon. Sir Hedworth Lambton. The *Scharnhorst* was launched at Hamburg in 1906 and is an armoured four-funnelled cruiser of 11,600 tons displacement. On her trial she did 24 knots. She carries eight 8-inch, six 5-inch and twenty 3-inch guns, with four torpedo tubes, and her complement, all told, is 650 men.

HOCKEY.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE BOYS V. HONGKONG LADIES' HOCKEY CLUB.

It is many years ago since the Queen's College boys played a hockey match. Recently a number of boys got together and formed a hockey team. They played against the Hongkong Ladies' Hockey Club yesterday afternoon in a friendly game at Causeway Bay on the latter's ground.

The game was a fast and exciting one and was watched by many interested spectators. The ball was driven all over the field, and both teams tried hard to score, but with no result. At one stage of the game it looked as if the Boys would score, as they were attacking all the way along, but the ladies were too watchful for them. In the latter part of the game the same thing occurred, and it ended in a draw. Nil all, with good play on both sides. The ladies were "captained" by Miss Briggs and the boys by Master Felix Ellis.

STEAMER "GUMMANIA" ASHORE.

MISHAP AT THE GILBERT ISLANDS.

News was received in Sydney on 10th ult. that the German steamer *Germania* had been ashore at the Gilbert Group.
The vessel was proceeding from Sydney to the East, via the Islands, and according to the account to hand she made a blind passage at Bataniari, and stuck hard and fast on the coral. After being ashore for four hours the vessel got off apparently uninjured, and proceeded to Jalali.

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

LIAOTUNG PENINSULA.

PENDING QUESTIONS.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 17th December.

It is proposed by the Grand Council to memorialize the Central Government to depute Hsu Shih-chang to the Liaotung to settle all pending questions.

PORTUGUESE COMMISSIONER.

A BELATED REPORT.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 17th December.

The Canton Viceroy has reported the departure of the Portuguese Delegation Commissioner for Peking.

FINANCIAL BUDGET.

RETURNS WANTED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 17th December.

Telegraphic instructions have been despatched to all the Provinces urging them to send the financial returns for the preparation of the budget.

LANGKAT OIL CO., LD.

PETROLEUM CONCESSION IN KEDAH.

We understand that Mr. T. T. Lawson some time ago obtained an oil concession in Kedah, where he found petroleum oozing in several places, says the *Peking Gazette*, of November 27. After careful examination he decided to approach the Langkat Oil Co. Ltd., who, on being supplied with all details regarding stratification and particulars of the surrounding country decided to despatch one of their best experts in the person of Mr. Knottman. This gentleman, a week ago, proceeded to Kedah with Mr. Lawson, who after spending days in careful survey, expressed himself as highly satisfied with the results of his examination, and is now busily inspecting two of the districts where oil has been found on the surface. Mr. Knottman will probably remain in Kedah for the next two or three weeks, and the result of his investigations will be awaited with considerable interest. Mr. Lawson has just completed a journey through a little-known part of Kedah, extending from Baling to Gok on the Patani frontier and thence east to Alor Star. The whole journey was done on foot, and the distance covered was over a hundred miles.

OPUM IN YUNNAN.

BURNING OF THE DRUG AT THE CAPITAL.

The execution ground at Yunnanfu, a few days ago, was the scene of a remarkably daring proceeding by the officials in the campaign for the total suppression of opium in the province, writes a correspondent in the *N. C. D. News*. No less than 20,000 ounces of prepared opium were publicly destroyed by fire, in the presence of an enormous crowd of people. The officials of the city were present in person, and the event was looked upon as the greatest public demonstration of the kind that the people had seen. The utmost stringency is being observed, and smokers are being harshly dealt with but there is yet much to be done. Yunnanfu a few years ago, was one of the greatest opium centres of the empire, and it is questionable whether the illicit trade will ever be eradicated, even with all the precautions taken to bring about that end.

The drug is brought into the city under cover in many ways, and the man who wants any quantity generally knows where to get it. But it cannot be said that Yunnan as a province is backward in the national suppression movement—the conditions are far different to what they were only a couple of years ago. At one time, the only products of the province were opium and tin. Opium came from all parts of the province and went in all directions, that portion shipped for the use of the Opium Regie in Tonkin amounting roughly to 3,000 piculs, the quantity going by land into China being much greater. Yunnan opium was known at Canton and at Chinkiang in 1863 and then the production was estimated at some 10,000 piculs, but when Hsi Liang, as Viceroy, began his crusade against the growers, the known production was not less than 40,000 piculs. On the main road to-day, one can see very little cultivation of the poppy—what is grown is produced in isolated spots. Very different are the conditions obtaining in the adjoining provinces of Kweichow and Szechuan. The writer has seen in Szechuan miles and miles of land given over entirely to the growth of the poppy—not in isolated districts, but on both sides of the main pack roads of the province. Even coming up the Upper Yangtze, from the houseboat may be seen huge tracts of the poppy in flower.

Kweichow, at the present moment, does not know what to do with its supply, and smugglers find it an easy matter to secure as much as they need to take over the mountains into this city for illicit sale.

SHANGHAI AND THE PROVINCIAL DELEGATES.

The first session of the Provincial Assemblies, which was to last from the first of the ninth moon to the eleventh of the tenth moon (October 14 to November 23) has been concluded, and in ordinary circumstances these bodies will not meet until next autumn. According to their constitution, in addition to the regular annual meeting, they may be convened by the Viceroy or Governor on his own initiative or at the request of two-thirds of the members. While there is not much probability of the former occasion arising, various Assemblies have taken themselves seriously enough to render it possible that they will not wish to be out of session for a whole year. In the meantime, however, they have decided upon a step of considerable significance. As was stated yesterday in our Notes on Native Affairs, the proposal to convene a meeting of delegates from the Provincial Assemblies has materialized and representatives of the provinces of Chihli, Shansi, Shensi, Hooan, Kansu and Chinese Turkestan are due to arrive this week in Shanghai, where they will meet delegates from the Kiangsu and other Assemblies. The purpose of this joint meeting is to urge upon the Government the advisability of expediting the inauguration of a Chinese Parliament, and it may be regarded as a foregone conclusion that the delegates will support fairly unanimously such a motion. To enhance the effect of this notable gathering we have the picturesque details of the spirit in which the provinces have elected to speed their parting delegates. A teacher in a school at Changsha (Hunan), we are told, chopped off one of his fingers, and, writing with the stump eight characters expressive of approval of the mission, sent this weird testimonial to the delegation.

When it is remembered how recent of growth is the tendency to joint action even among neighbouring provinces in China, the summoning of this unofficial parliament of Assembly delegates is

A SIGNIFICANT EVENT in the short history of the nation's adoption of the constitutional idea. It indicates primarily the importance attached by the Assemblies themselves to their own existence and to the hold that constitutional government in the abstract has obtained upon the people. As we pointed out when the Assemblies first met, an attempt at constitutional government has been initiated before any decision has been taken regarding the nature of the constitution. Nothing is known to justify the belief that the Central Government has any clearer ideas on this subject than it had at the beginning of the year when elections for the Provincial Assemblies were ordered. Since that date, however, these Assemblies have, as it were, found themselves; and whatever may be the outcome of the united Assembly meeting in Shanghai, it cannot be long before they force the hand of the Peking authorities. The prospect is not altogether satisfactory, as the country is in need of a slower process of evolution than is to be anticipated from an open breach between the Provincial Assemblies and the Government. An indication in time from the latter that it is seriously preparing to adapt itself to the new conditions by the employment not only of expert advice, but also of an expert executive might save the position and enable the somewhat formidable forces called into being by these Assemblies to be conducted along lines of gradual and intelligent progress. But so long as the members of the provincial parliaments are encouraged in their belief that whatever edicts may preach to the contrary, the real authorities in Peking have no intention of allowing constitutional government to encroach upon the time-honoured privileges of the ruling class, they will be tempted to accelerate evolution by revolutionary methods. The Central Government may have yet to learn that neither secret societies nor foreign "aggression" can undermine the authority that it has so often abused as effectually as the constitutional forces created by itself.

A COMMON MEETING-GROUND by the delegates of the Provincial Assemblies has fallen upon Shanghai, and it would be idle to suppose that geographical considerations alone have prompted their decision. They could have made no better selection, and it is to be hoped that those among the Chinese who will act as hosts will ensure that nothing is wanting in their hospitality to make the stay of these delegates as agreeable and as instructive as possible. It would also be a tacit recognition of the new order of things in China, if the Executive of the Settlement were to assure this informal national parliament, the first of its kind, of its interest and sympathy, while taking steps to give practical expression to such sentiments. The delegates will be gathered from distant provinces, and it is probable that to many Shanghai will be a city of wonders; their position ensure for them intelligence and influence above their fellows, and there is much in the Settlement that they will not be able to see and appreciate without the active good will of the administrators of the international territory. Apart from formal welcomes, it should be possible to nominate a small committee of Chinese-speaking members of the foreign community, who will put themselves in touch with the delegates and cater for their wishes in regard to gaining an insight into the daily existence of a foreign town. Our visitors will have heard much of Shanghai; they will have heard much too of the foreigner in China and all that his presence implies—from the Chinese point of view. If brought into closer touch with these foreigners by their own surroundings, even for a few days, they may return to their provinces with matured views, that may bear fruit profitably and in quarters to be reached by no other means. Our Governments at home can always be relied upon to welcome China's official envoys; we in Shanghai will now be given the first opportunity of showing similar hospitality, in a smaller degree, to envoys no less important because unofficial.—N. C. D. News

JAPAN YARN.

The Osaka *Mainichi* notes that the failure of the cotton crops in America this year has resulted in the formation of a ring to buy up cotton. This has forced up the quotation of the product, an advance at one time being registered of close upon Y50 per 100 lbs. Naturally Bombay cotton followed suit. On the other hand the yarn market in Japan declined in consequence of the falling-off in the demand, the quotation dropping below Y124 at one time. This created a feeling of misgiving regarding the position of spinning companies in view of the small stock of cheap raw cotton held by them. Subsequently the quotation of raw cotton gradually declined as the arrivals of new season's cotton increased and it has now become known that the cotton-buying ring formed in America was not so powerful as those formed in recent years. At the same time the yarn market has advanced by Y6 to Y7, with the result that the uneasy feeling about the high price of raw cotton has now been much dispelled. At the present quotation the spinning companies will reap some profit on their production. The Osaka journal gives the following quotations of raw cotton in Osaka on December to explain the position of the spinning companies:—

AMERICAN COTTON.		Old Crop
Arrival in Dec.		in stock.
Good Middling	Y47.25	Y41.50
Fully	46.65	41.00
Common	46.25	41.00
BOMBAY COTTON.		Old Crop
Arrival in Dec. and Jan.		in stock.
Acala and Kangam	Y29.50	Y31.00
Yothmal	30.25	31.50
Bengal	27.75	30.00
Barat	33.50	—
Broach, to be shipped in Feb. and March	35.00	35.00
CHINESE COTTON.		Old Crop
Toungchow	Y32.50	—
Shanghai N. market	31.50	—
Shanghai S. market	30.00	—

The proportion of various qualities of raw cotton used in producing the yarn, adds the Osaka journal, varies according to the companies, but in spinning 20's 60 per cent. of Acala and Kangam, 20 per cent. each of Yothmal and Bengali are generally used. According to the prices of raw cotton quoted, 60 per cent. of Acala and Kangam represents Y17.70; 20 per cent. of Yothmal Y6.05, and 20 per cent. of Bengali Y6.50. Thus the cost of 100 lbs. of raw cotton will be Y30.25. This will bring up the cost of raw cotton used in producing a bale of yarn to Y105.87. Adding Y10, producing expenses, the original price of yarn will not exceed Y115.87 per bale. This will leave a profit of Y2 to Y3 per bale at the current quotation of yarn. The cost of raw cotton required for producing coarse yarn of 10's to 16's, does not exceed Y30 per 100 lbs., and when the producing expenses—Y15—are added, the original cost of yarn will not exceed Y45 per bale. The "horse" brand of 16's yarn is now quoted at Y125.50 per bale. In consequence the current quotation of raw cotton will amply pay the spinning company concerned in producing 20's and below. In conclusion the *Mainichi* remarks that what should be noted is the small stock of raw cotton now held by each spinning company. Even among the powerful companies only a few hold stocks sufficient to last over March next, and all the companies are now striving hard to purchase stocks of raw cotton. They are contracting at high prices, though making it appear that they are purchasing on low terms. If the fact that the companies are holding only a small stock of raw cotton becomes generally known, and the companies are compelled to purchase in any circumstances, the price of raw cotton in Japan will go up above that prevailing in America and India, and the present situation of the spinning companies will be reversed, their working again becoming unremunerative.—*Japan Chronicle*

KULANGSU (AMOI) MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at the Board Room on the 30th November, 1900. Present:—Messrs. W. H. Wallace (chairman), J. S. Fenwick, W. Nilson, J. Mancarioli, Lim Nee Kar, K. Taidurabara, the Health Officer and the Assistant Secretary.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Assistant Secretary reported that his attention had been called to some complaints among the Chinese regarding the night-soil contractor and the slaughter house keeper. The former was said to be storing the ordure on the island waiting for a demand to set in up-country instead of removing it daily according to the conditions of his contract, and the latter was suspected of allowing diseased pigs to be slaughtered at the Municipal Slaughter House. The matter of the slaughter-house proved on inquiry to be based merely on suspicion, no one being able to prove anything; and as regarded the night-soil contractor although a close inspection was made by the Council's servants, no trace could be obtained of the spot where this ordure was being stored. Both men were however warned.

The order regarding the muzzling of dogs which had been in force since 28th September, 1900, was rescinded by the Assistant Secretary on 11th December, 1900, the Health Officer for the port having declared it to be no longer necessary.

The following cases were reported to have been dealt with at the Mixed Court since last meeting:—Summonses. Allowing pigs to stray on the public roads, 1. Disorderly conduct, 1. Debt, 1. Summary Arrests. Loitering after midnight, 1. Wrongful detention of 2 boys, 1.

(Signed) W. H. WALLACE, Chairman.
By order, E. A. HARTLEY, Asst. Secretary.

Today's Advertisements.

BRITISH MUNICIPAL COUNCILS, TIENTSIN.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the position of ENGINEER to the British Municipal Councils, Tientsin. Applicants should state their age, whether married or single, and should give full details of their previous experience, especially of their experience in China.

The salary will be Tientsin Taels 400 per month, with medical attendance. The selected candidate must pass a medical examination.

Only copies of testimonials need be sent. Applications to be endorsed "Appointment of Engineer," and to be addressed to The Chairman, British Municipal Councils, Tientsin; they should reach Tientsin not later than January 15th, 1901.

By Order of the Councils, W. McLEISH, Secretary. [861]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship

"CATHERINE APCAR," having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods will be delivered from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge will be landed at once, at Consignees' risk and expense. Cargo remaining on board after 4 P.M. of the 22nd inst., will be landed at Consignees' risk and expense.

Consignees of Cargo from SINGAPORE and PENANG are requested to take IMMEDIATE DELIVERY of their Goods from alongside, such Cargo impeding the discharge of the vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersigned.

DAVID SASSOON & Co., LIMITED, Agents.

Hongkong, 18th December, 1900. [862]

RUSSIA'S POSITION IN MANCHURIA.

Tokio, December 13th. The Russian Minister of Finance, M. Kokovtzeff, who recently returned to St. Petersburg after a brief visit to the Far East, in reply to a telegram from the Russian Commercial Exchange at Harbin, declares that the rights that Russia has already acquired in Manchuria and Mongolia must not be curtailed. M. Kokovtzeff added that he recognized the necessity that existed for stronger protection of those rights. In regard to customs duties on goods passing overland between Russian and Chinese territories Russia was ready to make concessions if China would reciprocate.—*N. C. D. News*

Events Coming.

Sunday, 19th December. Catholic Union Bazaar, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Monday, 20th December. Geo. P. Lammer, Toys sale 2.30 p.m. Crown Land sale, at the Offices of the Public Works Department, 3 p.m.

St. Stephen's College, Opening of New Wing, by His Excellency the Governor, 3 p.m. Geo. P. Lammer, Fancy Goods sale, 3.30 p.m. Kowloon Institute Concert, 8.30 p.m.

Bishop Lander "At Home," at St. Paul's College.

Tuesday, 21st December. Hughes and Hough High Class English Jewellery sale, 11 a.m. Sanitary Board Meeting, 3.45 p.m. Hughes and Hough, Xmas Toys sale, 4 p.m.

Wednesday, 22nd December. Hughes and Hough, Japanese Curios sale, 2.30 p.m. Geo. P. Lammer, Auction sale of Sundry Goods etc., 2.30 p.m.

St. Joseph's English College, distribution of prizes, by His Excellency the Governor, 4.30 p.m.

Thursday, 23rd December. Theatre Royal, A Grand Minstrel Performance, by the Minstrel Troupe of the U. S. Navy Cruiser *West Virginia*, 9 p.m.

Friday, 24th December. Hongkong Football Challenge Shield Meeting, at the Y.M.C.A., Alexandra Building, 5.30 p.m. Boxing at City Hall.

Saturday, 25th December. Public Holiday.

Monday, 27th December. Public Holiday. Theatre Royal, Bandmann Comedy Co., "The Early Worm," 9 p.m.

Tuesday, 28th December. Hughes and Hough, Auction sale of Sundries, etc., at H.M. Naval Establishments, 10 a.m. Theatre Royal, Bandmann Comedy Co., "The Best People," 9 p.m.

Wednesday, 29th December. Hughes and Hough, Auction sale of Sundries, etc., at H.M. Naval Establishments, 10 a.m. Campbell, Moore and Co., Ltd., Annual Meeting, at the Company's Offices, 14, Des Vaux Road, Central, First Floor, at Noon.

Theatre Royal, Bandmann Comedy Co., "Facing the Music," 9 p.m.

Thursday, 30th December. Hughes and Hough, Public Auction "Rio Lina" late gunboat, at the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co.'s Docks, Hungtom, 3 p.m. Theatre Royal, Bandmann Comedy Co., "A Tale of Two Cities," 9 p.m.

Today's Advertisements.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED, ON

TUESDAY,

the 21st December, 1900, at 2 P.M., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, corner of Ice House Street,

ANOTHER CONSIGNMENT OF HIGH CLASS ENGLISH JEWELRY, comprising—

DIAMOND RINGS, BRACELETS, BROOCHES, PINS, GOLD BANGLES, MARQUISE RINGS, GOLD and SILVER WATCHES by Benson, SILVER BACK HAIR BRUSHES, TOILET SETS, JEWEL CASES, MANICURE SETS, GENT'S PIGSKIN DRESSING CASES, FANCY GOODS, &c., &c.; ALSO

PLATED and GLASS WARE, UMBRELLAS, AND A quantity of LOOSE DIAMONDS.

These goods have just arrived from London, being part of Bankrupt Stock, and are not locally owned. Suitable for Xmas presents. Catalogues will be issued. TERMS:—As Usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH, Auctioneers. Hongkong, 18th December, 1900. [859]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions from Commander J. DA CUNHA LIMA, to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, ON

THURSDAY,

the 30th December, 1900, at 3 P.M., on board, as she now lies off The Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Co.'s Docks, at Hungtom,

The Late Gunboat "RIO LIMA,"

Extreme Length 109 ft. 6 ins. Length on Water Line 150 ft. 3 ins. Extreme Breadth 27 ft. 7 ins. Displacement 65 tons. Draught Forward 10 ft. 2 ins. Aft 11 ft. 2 ins.

Engines—Compound Surface Condensing (Horizontal) by Laird Brothers, Birkenhead.

BOILERS—(2) Cylindrical 4 years old. Working Pressure 60 lbs. per square inch. The Vessel is now open to inspection (Sunday excepted).

Inspecting Orders can be obtained from the Auctioneers. Terms:—Cash before Delivery, 25 % of the Purchase Money to be paid on the fall of the Hammer, Balance and clearance to be effected within 7 days after the date of sale.

Anchors and Chains to be sold with the Ship. For further particulars apply to the Auctioneers.

A Steam Launch will leave Blake Pier at 2.30 p.m. to convey intending purchasers.

HUGHES & HOUGH, Auctioneers. Hongkong, 18th December, 1900. [860]

THEATRE ROYAL

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR FREDERICK LUGARD, K.O.M.G., D.S.O., C.B.

GRAND MINSTREL PERFORMANCE

BY THE MINSTREL TROUPE OF THE U.S. CRUISER "WEST VIRGINIA" AT THE

THEATRE ROYAL ON

WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, the 22nd and 23rd December, AT 9 P.M.

TICKETS.....\$3, \$2 & \$1.

Proceeds in aid of the Chinese Y.M.C.A.

Booking at S. MOUTRIE'S.

Hongkong, 15th December, 1900. [843]

"Worth having"



THE BEST "SCOTCH"

Perfection WHISKY

SOLE AGENTS—H. PRICE & CO., LD. PROPRIETORS. D. & J. McALLUM, EDINBURGH.

As there are other Brands of Perfection Whisky on the market, please see that you get M'CALLUM'S PERFECTION WHISKY.

H. PRICE & CO., LD. WINE MERCHANTS, 14, QUEEN'S ROAD.

Hongkong, 18th December, 1900.

Shipping—Steamers.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY CO.'S

Royal Mail Steamship Line.

"EMPRESS LINE."

Between China, Japan and Europe via Canada and the United States, calling at Hongkong, Shanghai, Nagasaki (through the Island Sea of Japan) Kobe, Yokohama, Victoria and Vancouver B.C.

The only Line that maintains a Regular Service of 12 DAYS YOKOHAMA TO VANCOUVER. 21 DAYS HONGKONG TO VANCOUVER SAVING 5 TO 7 DAYS' OCEAN TRAVEL.

Proposed Sailings from Hongkong and St. John, N.B. (Subject to alteration).

Connecting with Royal Mail Atlantic Steamers.

From Hongkong.	From St. John, N.B.
"EMPRESS OF JAPAN" SATURDAY, JAN. 1ST.	"CHARTER" FRIDAY, JAN. 28TH.
"EMPRESS OF CHINA" SATURDAY, JAN. 29TH.	"EMPRESS OF IRELAND" FRIDAY, FEB. 25TH.
"MONTEAGLE" TUESDAY, FEB. 15TH.	"EMPRESS OF IRELAND" FRIDAY, MARCH 25TH.
"EMPRESS OF INDIA" SATURDAY, FEB. 26TH.	"EMPRESS OF IRELAND" FRIDAY, APRIL 22ND.
"EMPRESS OF JAPAN" SATURDAY, MAR. 26TH.	"EMPRESS OF IRELAND" FRIDAY, MAY 20TH.

Each Trans-Pacific "Empress" connects at Vancouver with a Special Mail Express Train and at St. John, N.B. with Atlantic Mail Steamer as shown above. The "Empress of Britain" and "Empress of Ireland" are magnificent vessels of 14,500 tons, Speed 20 Knots, and are regarded as second to none on the Atlantic. The "Empress" Steamers on the Pacific and on the Atlantic are equipped with the Marconi wireless apparatus.

Passengers booked to all the principal ports in Canada, the United States and Europe, also around the World.

HONGKONG TO LONDON, 1st Class, via Canadian Atlantic Port or New York (including Meals and Berth in Steamer) or while crossing the American Continent by Canadian Pacific direct line.

Passengers for Europe have the option of going forward by any Trans-Atlantic Line either from Canadian Ports or from New York or Boston.

SPECIAL THROUGH RATES—Special rates (First Class only) are granted to Missionaries, Members of the Navy, Military, Diplomatic and Consular Services, European Civil Service Officials located in Asia, and to European Officials in the service of the Governments of China and Japan, and the families.

Through Passengers are allowed Stop over privileges at the various points of interest en route.

R.M.S. "MONTEAGLE" carries only "One Class" of Saloon Passengers (termed Intermediate) the accommodation and commissariat being excellent in every way.

HONGKONG TO LONDON. Intermediate on Steamers and 1st Class on Canadian and American Railways.

Via Canadian Atlantic Port

Via New York

For further information, Maps, Guide Books, Rates of Passage and Freight, apply to—

D. W. GRADDOCK, General Traffic Agent, Corner Pedder Street and Praya (opposite Blake's Pier).

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LD.

(PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.)

For	Steamship	On
SHANGHAI via SWATOW	"FOOSHING"	MONDAY, 20th Dec., 10 A.M.
WEIHAIWEI, CHEFOO & CHIN	"CHIPSING"	WEDNESDAY, 22nd Dec., 4 P.M.
WANTAO	"CHIPSING"	WEDNESDAY, 22nd Dec., 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI via NINGPO	"CHIPSANG"	WEDNESDAY, 22nd Dec., 4 P.M.
MANILA	"LOONGSANG"	FRIDAY, 24th Dec., 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA, KOBE	"KUTSANG"	FRIDAY, 24th Dec., 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI & MOI	"LIENSHING"	SUNDAY, 26th Dec., 11 A.M.
SHANGHAI	"SUORABAYA"	TUESDAY, 28th Dec., 4 P.M.
MANILA	"YUENSANG"	FRIDAY, 31st Dec., 4 P.M.
SINGAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA	"KUMSANG"	FRIDAY, 31st Dec., Noon.
SINGAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA	"KUMSANG"	WEDNESDAY, 5th Jan., Noon.

FOR THE MANILA CARNIVAL—Feb. 5th to 14th 1910.

A Special reduced fare of \$50 for Return Passengers will be issued for our Sailings to Manila of the 28th January, and 4th February, available for 30 days from date of issue.

Passengers taking out these tickets are exempt from the Head Tax.

* Steamers have superior accommodation for First-class Passengers, and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Yangtze Ports, Chefoo, Tientsin & Newchwang.

For Freight or Passage, apply to JARDINE MATHESON & CO., LD., General Managers.

Telephone No. 61. Hongkong, 18th December, 1909.

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

For	Steamship	To Sail
SHANGHAI	"ANHUI"	19th Dec., Daylight.
WEIHAIWEI, CHEFOO & DALNY	"SHANGHAI"	20th " 4 P.M.
MANILA	"SHANGHAI"	21st " 3 P.M.
SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, SAMARANG	"SHANGHAI"	22nd " Noon.
SHANGHAI & SOERABAYA	"CHIHAI"	22nd " Noon.
SHANGHAI	"LINAI"	23rd " 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI	"CHIHUA"	26th " Daylight.
MANILA	"TAMING"	28th " 3 P.M.
SHANGHAI	"CHENAN"	30th " 4 P.M.
MANILA, ZAMBOANGA and USUAL	"CHANGSHA"	8th Jan., 4 P.M.

Reduced Saloon Fares, single and return, to Manila and Australian Ports.

DIRECT SAILING TO WEST RIVER, twice weekly.

S.S. "LINTAN" and S.S. "SANUI."

AUSTRALIAN STEAMERS have superior accommodation with Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in State-rooms. A duly qualified Doctor is carried. REDUCED FARES. Cargo booked through for all Australian, New Zealand and Tasmanian Ports.

MANILA TWIN-SCREW STEAMERS and TIENTSIN STEAMERS have superior accommodation with Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in State-rooms and Dining Saloons.

FAST SCHEDULE TWIN-SCREW STEAMERS (Anhui, Chusan, Linan, Chinkwa, etc.) with excellent passenger accommodation, Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in the State-rooms and Dining Saloons, leave Hongkong for Shanghai direct every Thursday and Sunday, taking cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports.

N.B.—Passengers must embark before midnight on Saturday for the Sunday morning sailings. A Company's launch leaves Murray Pier at 10 o'clock every Saturday night.

These steamers (and passengers) to Shanghai, avoiding the inconvenience of transshipment at Woosung.

Fares—\$45 single, \$90 return.

For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, AGENTS.

Telephone No. 36. Hongkong, 18th December, 1909.

HONGKONG—MANILA.

CHINA AND MANILA

STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

Steamship.	Tonn.	Captain.	For	Sailing Date.
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RUBI	2500	R. W. Almond	MANILA	FRIDAY, 24th Dec., at 5 P.M.
ZAFIRO	2500	R. Rodger	"	SATURDAY, 1st Jan., at 5 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to SHEWAN TOMES & CO., GENERAL MANAGERS.

Telephone No. 15th December, 1909.

Shipping—Steamers.

SOUTH AMERICAN LINE.

REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE FOR CALLAO, IQUIQUE, VALPARAISO, Etc., via MOJI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA, HONOLULU, MANZANILLO and SALINA CRUZ (Mexico).

S.S. MANSHU MARU	5,000 tons gross	Sail Dec. 19th, 1909, at Noon.
S.S. AMERICA MARU	6,000 "	" Feb. 5th, 1910, at Noon.
S.S. KIYO MARU	10,000 "	" Feb. 26th, 1910, at Noon.
S.S. BUYO MARU	10,000 "	" April 27th, 1910, at Noon.

For particulars, apply to

N. YAMADA,

Acting Manager.

TOYO KISEN KAISHA, King's Building.

Hongkong, 18th December, 1909.

OSAKA SHOSEN KAISHA.

REGULAR SERVICES, PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

(Subject to Alteration.)

TRANS-PACIFIC SERVICE, Connecting at TACOMA with

THE CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE AND PUGET SOUND RAILWAY,

AND

THE CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE AND ST. PAUL RAILWAY,

(The only direct train service, without transshipment, also shortest and fastest route from the Pacific Coast to CHICAGO). Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Overland Common Points in the U.S.A. and Canada, also to the principal Ports in Mexico, Central and South America.

For	Steamers	G. Tonnage	Leaves
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TACOMA via MOJI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA	"SEATTLE MARU" Capt. T. Saito	6,182	FRIDAY, 21st Jan., 1910, at Noon.
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The Co.'s newly built steamers have fair speed. Superior accommodation for steerage passengers situated AMIDSHIP. A limited number of Cabin passengers carried at low rates. Best adapted rooms for carrying Silk, Treasure and Parcels. Special attention given towards Express connection.

HONGKONG, SOUTH CHINA COAST PORTS & FORMOSA SERVICE.

For	Steamers	Leaves
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TAMSUI v. SWATOW & AMOY.	"DAIGO MARU" Capt. H. Murayama	SUNDAY, 19th Dec., at 10 A.M.
ANPING v. SWATOW & AMOY	"SOBUT MARU" Capt. T. Saito	WEDNESDAY, 22nd Dec., at 10 A.M.
TAMSUI v. SWATOW & AMOY.	"DAIJIN MARU" Capt. Y. Kaburaki	SUNDAY, 26th Dec., at 10 A.M.
T. KAO (Direct)	"SHIBETORO MARU" Capt. S. Asumi	About the 16th December.

Fair speed. Superior passenger accommodation. Electric light throughout. First class cuisine.

The newly built steamers: "GHOSHUN MARU" and "BUJUN MARU"—First class Cabins AMIDSHIP.

For information of Freight, Passengers, Sailings, etc., apply at the Co.'s Local Branch Office at Second Floor, No. 1, Queen's Buildings.

Hongkong, 18th December, 1909.

T. ARIMA, Manager.

Hongkong, 18th December, 1909.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA

(THE JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.)

PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

DESTINATIONS.

STEAMERS.

SAILING DATES, 1909.

MARSEILLES, LONDON AND ANTWERP via SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO AND PORT SAID.

HIBANO MARU, Capt. H. Fraser, Tons 9,000, WEDNESDAY, 22nd Dec., at Daylight.

TANGO MARU, Capt. A. Christensen, Tons 8,000, WEDNESDAY, 22nd Dec., at Daylight.

KAMO MARU, Capt. F. L. Sommer, Tons 9,000, WEDNESDAY, 22nd Dec., at Daylight.

AWA MARU, Capt. A. Keith, Tons 6,500, WEDNESDAY, 22nd Dec., at Daylight.

SAZUKI MARU, Capt. K. Homma, Tons 6,500, SATURDAY, 19th Jan., at Daylight.

SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE via MANILA, THURSDAY ISLAND, TOWNSVILLE AND BRISBANE.

KUMANO MARU, Capt. M. Wickett, Tons 6,000, FRIDAY, 24th Dec., at Noon.

YAWATA MARU, Capt. T. Sekine, Tons 6,000, FRIDAY, 24th Dec., at Noon.

ATSUTA MARU, Capt. Wm. Thompson, Tons 9,000, FRIDAY, 24th Dec., at Noon.

 TAMBA MARU, Capt. C. H. Butler, Tons 6,500, FRIDAY, 24th Dec., at 5 P.M. || MOJI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA | "AKI MARU" Capt. K. Saito, Tons 7,000 | WEDNESDAY, 24th Dec., at Noon. |
| SHANGHAI, MOJI AND KOBE | "TOTOKI MARU" Capt. R. Smith, Tons 4,500 | TUESDAY, 4th January. |
| BOMBAY via SINGAPORE and COLOMBO | "TAKASAKI MARU" Capt. A. Mocker, Tons 5,000 | TUESDAY, 28th December. |

* Fitted with new system of wireless telegraphy. * Cargo only. * Carries deck passengers.

† Through Passenger Tickets issued to the Principal Cities in the United States, Canada and Europe, in connection with the GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY and Atlantic Steamers.

Round-the-World Tickets also issued. Between Nagasaki and Yokohama, 1st and 2nd class through passengers have the option of travelling by Rail.

From Hongkong direct to Nagasaki 4 days, to Kobe 4 days and to Yokohama 5 days.

For further information as to Freight, Passage, Sailings, etc., apply at the Company's Local Branch Office in Prince's Buildings, First Floor, Chater Road.

T. KUSUMOTO,

Shipping—Steamers.

THE "SHIRE" LINE OF STEAMERS, LIMITED.

PASSENGER SERVICE TO LONDON & ANTWERP.

THE Steamers

"PEMBROKESHIRE" (late "Segura") & "CARMARTHENSHIRE"

Offering superior accommodation for First-class Passengers, will be despatched from Hongkong as above on or about end of January and beginning of March respectively.

FARE TO LONDON

A Stewardess and fully qualified Doctor are carried.

N.B.—"Pembroke" calls at Marseilles.

For further particulars apply to

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd., Agents.

Hongkong, 13th December, 1909.

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December 18th, 1909, a.m.									
Amurrock	0 a.m.	30.41	6	66		0	b		
Amuro	0 a.m.	30.48			NW	6			
Amuro	"	30.21			NW	6			
Amuro	"	30.32			SW	2			
Amuro	"	30.31			N	4			
Amuro	"	30.39			N	4			
Amuro	"	30.35			N	4			
Amuro	"	30.24			N	4			
Amuro	"	30.21			N	4			
Amuro	"	30.28			N	4			
Amuro	"	30.12			N	4			
Amuro	0 a.m.	—							
Amuro	0 a.m.	—	35		SW	2	b		
Amuro	0 a.m.	—							
Amuro	0 a.m.	30.43	34	00	NE	1	0		
Amuro	0 a.m.	30.52	38	72	NNE	1	0		
Amuro	"	30.43	43		N	3	0		
Amuro	"	30.39	52		NE	1	0		
Amuro	0 a.m.	30.28	54	80	NE	1	0		
Amuro	"	30.21	57	86	N	1	0		
Amuro	0 a.m.	30.27			E	4	2		
Amuro	"	30.18			N	2	8		
Amuro	"	30.20			N	2	8		
Amuro	"	30.15			NE	8	10		
Amuro	"	30.21			N	10	1		
Amuro	0 a.m.	30.30	55	50	N	1	0		
Amuro	10 a.m.	30.28	53	59	NNE	1	0		
Amuro	0 a.m.	30.28	58		NE	3	4		
Amuro	"	30.32			N	2	0		
Amuro	0 a.m.	30.28	58		N	2	0		
Amuro	0 a.m.	30.34	56		N	2	0		
Amuro	"	30.27			N	2	0		
Amuro	"	30.26	61		NE	2	0		
Amuro	"	30.10	70		E	3	4		
Amuro	"	29.95	75		N	3	4		
Amuro	0 a.m.	29.95	75		N	3	4		
Amuro	10 a.m.	29.96	81	76	NNE	0	0		
Amuro	0 a.m.	29.99	77		NE	0	0		
Amuro	0 a.m.	29.99	77		NE	0	0		
Amuro	"	29.86	77		WNE	1	0		
Amuro	"	29.00	78		N	1	0		
Amuro	"	29.95	81		N	1	0		

Dec. 17 m.
 50 m. 6 p.m.
 30.33 30.20
 51 54
 43 47

SHARE QUOTATIONS

Supplied by Messrs. E. S. KADOORIE & Co. Corrected to noon: later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence," page 5.

ST CKS	NO. OF SHARES	VALUE	PAID UP	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT	LAST DIVIDEND.	APPROXIMATE RETURN AT PRESENT QUOTATION BASED ON LAST YEAR'S DIV.	CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
				RESERVE.	AT WORKING ACCOUNT.		
BANKS.							
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	120,000	\$125	\$125	\$1,500,000 \$15,000 \$350,000	\$2,007,819	Interim of £2 for account 1909 @ ex 1/91 = \$22.72	4 % \$995 London £02.5/-
National Bank of China, Limited	90,025	7	68	\$4,000 \$5,000	\$30,553	\$2 (London 3/6) for 1903	\$65 buyers
MARINE INSURANCES.							
Canton Insurance Office, Limited	10,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,500,000 \$254,581 \$503,790 \$185,000	none	\$10 for 1908	7 % \$150 sales
North China Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	£15	£5	Tls. 22,000 Tls. 335,353 Tls. 146,185	Tls. 107,573	Final of 7/6 making 15/- for 1908	Tls. 112 1/2
Union Insurance Society of Canton	12,400	\$150	\$100	\$1,000,000 \$124,480 \$205,249 \$503,569	\$2,464,901	Final of \$17 making \$47 for 1907 and interim of \$30 for 1908	5 1/2 % \$890 buyers
Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited	12,000	\$100	\$50	\$1,000,000 \$200,405 \$109,264	\$7,637	\$12 and bonus \$3 for 1907	7 % \$230
FIRE INSURANCES.							
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	70,000	\$100	\$20	\$1,000,000 \$438,660 \$138,302	\$375,341	\$6 and bonus \$2 for 1907	7 % \$118
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	8,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,431,173	1,368,711	\$17 for 1907	7 1/2 % \$375 sellers
SHIPPING.							
China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited	30,000	\$25	\$15	\$7,000 \$290,000	\$1,085	\$1 for 1908	... \$8 sellers
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	20,000	\$50	\$50	\$100,000 \$100,000	NIL	14 for year ending 30.6.1908	... \$33
Hongkong, Canton & Mache Steamboat Co., Ltd.	80,000	\$15	\$15	\$617,500 \$119,267 \$23,645	\$21,170	Interim of \$1 1/2 for account 1909	7 1/2 % \$31 1/2 buyers
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. (Preferred)	60,000	£5	£5	\$10,000 \$240,000	£13,755	6/- for 1907 on Preference shares only @ ex 1/9 11/16 = \$3.154	... \$62 buyers
"Shell" Transport and Trading Company, Limited	2,000,000	£1	£1	\$100,000 \$100,000	£61,817	Final of 2/- for 1908 and interim of 1/- for a/c 1909	... 68/- buyers
"Star" Ferry Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$5	\$10,000 \$48,081	\$2,121	\$1.00 for year ending 10.4.1909	4 % 3 1/2 % \$26 buyers \$14 1/2
REFINERIES.							
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited	20,000	\$100	\$100	\$350,000 \$56,848	Dr. \$5,958	\$5 for year ending 31.12.08	3 1/2 % \$159 sellers
Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited	7,000	\$1	\$100	none	Dr. \$134,804	\$3 for 1897	... \$21 buyers
Perak Sugar Cultivation Company, Limited	7,000	Tls. 5	Tls. 50	Tls. 100,000	Tls. 6,002	Tls. 10 for year ending 31.12.09	... Tls. 335 buyers
MINING.							
Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ltd.	1,000,000	£1	£1	\$175,000 \$23,381	£1 43/-	Final of 1/6 making 3/- for 1909	7 % Tls. 19.10 b.
Raub Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited	150,000 50,000	1 1	18/10 £1	£4 1/8	Dr. £2,191	No. 13 of 1/- = 48 cents	... \$7 1/2 sellers
DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.							
Fenwick (Geo.) & Co., Limited	18,000	\$25	\$15	\$12,936	Dr. \$7,421	\$1.75 for year ending 31.12.08	... \$12
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd.	60,000	\$55	\$50	\$550,000 \$26,806 \$10,000	\$10,103	None	... \$61 1/2 sellers
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Ltd.	50,000	\$5	\$50	\$88,442 \$221,000	\$145,162	Interim of \$1 1/2 for account 1909	... \$52 sellers
Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd.	55,700	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 1,000,000	Tls. 6,261	Final of Tls. 2 1/2 for year ending 30.4.09	6 1/2 % Tls. 76 1/2 sales
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company, Limited	36,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 607,257 Tls. 50,000 Tls. 125,000	Tls. 22,818	Final of Tls. 6 making Tls. 10 for 1908	7 % Tls. 128 sales
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.							
Anglo-French Land Investment Co., Ltd.	25,000	Tls. 1	Tls. 100	Tls. 15,000	Tls. 4,134	Tls. 6 for year ending 29.2.09	5 1/2 % Tls. 105 buyers
Central Stores, Limited	50,123	\$15	\$50	\$1,000	\$24,061	\$1.20 on old and 60 cents on first new issue	... \$17 sellers
Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited	8,000	\$50	\$50	\$648,977 \$14,018	\$19,272	Interim of \$2.40 on old and 40 cents on new shares for account 1909	... \$37 1/2 buyers \$45 new b.
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd.	50,000	\$1	\$10	\$250,000 \$221,173	\$26,475	Interim of 3/4 for account 1909	6 1/2 % \$102 buyers
Humphreys Estate & Finance Company, Limited	150,000	\$1	\$30	\$48,361	\$5,486	60 cents for 1908	7 1/2 % \$8 1/2 sales
Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited	6,000	\$50	\$30	none	\$278	\$1 1/2 for 1908	5 % \$30 sellers
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited	78,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 1,513,045 Tls. 300,000	Tls. 142,404	Interim of Tls. 3 for account 1909	6 1/2 % Tls. 120 sales
West Point Building Company, Limited	12,500	\$50	\$50	none	\$1,908	Interim of 12 for account 1909	8 1/2 % \$44 buyers
COTTON MILLS.							
Zwo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ltd.	15,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 5	Tls. 200,000	Tls. 10,991	Tls. 11 for year ending 31.10.09	8 1/2 % Tls. 131 buyers
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Company, Limited	125,000	\$10	\$1	Tls. 40,008 \$10,000	\$10,551	50 cents for year ending 31.7.08	... \$6 1/2 sales
International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	10,000	Tls. 75	Tls. 75	Tls. 175,000	Tls. 8,372	Tls. 7 1/2 for year ending 30.9.06	... Tls. 75
Lao-tung-mow Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd.	8,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 10	none	Tls. 4,829	Tls. 4 for 1908	... Tls. 101
Sey Chee Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 500	Tls. 50	Tls. 31,173	Tls. 15,911	Tls. 5 1/2 for 1908	... Tls. 42 1/2
MISCELLANEOUS.							
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited	8,604	12/6	12/6	£1,500	£4 1/2	\$1.20 per share for 1908	... \$10
China-Borneo Company, Limited	50,000	\$12	\$12	\$40,000	none	\$1.20 for 1908	... \$12 1/2
China Light and Power Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	none	\$61,138	50 cents for year ended 31.2.08	10 % \$6 buyers
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Company, Ltd.	125,000	\$10	\$1	none	\$700,000	80 cents for 1908	8 1/2 % \$9 1/2 sales
Dairy Farm Company, Limited	40,000	\$7 1/2	\$6	\$1,000	\$1,407	\$1.0 for year ending 31.7.09	8 1/2 % \$16 1/2 sellers
Green Island Cement Company, Limited	400,000	\$10	\$10	\$13,000	\$3,756	Interim of 35 cents for account 1909	10 % \$17 sellers
H. Price & Company, Limited	12,000	\$10	\$10	\$5,000	\$670	8 cents for year ending 31.12.08	8 % \$12
Hongkong Electric Company, Limited	60,000	\$10	\$1	none	\$5195	\$1 and bonus 20 cts. for year ending 29.2.09	6 % \$20 sellers
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	5,000	\$25	\$25	none	\$7616	Interim of \$2 for account 1909	10 % \$180 sellers
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	60,000	\$10	\$10	\$150,000	\$8790	Interim of \$1 for account 1909	8 1/2 % \$12 1/2 sales
Maatschappij tot Mijnbouw en Landbouwen op de Looi, Limited	25,000	Gs. 100	Gs. 100	Tls. 427,500 Tls. 61,924	1,316,682	Final of Tls. 1 1/2 and bonus of Tls. 7 1/2 for 1909	... Tls. 830 buyers
Peak Tramways Company, Limited	25,000	\$10	\$10	\$10,000	\$1,204	80 cents on fully paid share and 8 cents on 51 paid shares for year ending 30.4.09	6 % \$13 1/2
Peak Tramways Company (new)	50,000	\$10	\$1	none	\$18,640	None	3 % \$1.40
Philippine Company, Limited	75,000	\$10	\$20	none	Pa. 18,640	None	... \$9 1/2 buyers
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 20	Tls. 20	Tls. 14,810 Tls. 72,000	Tls. 2,350	Final Tls. 5 making Tls. 8 for 1908	4 1/2 % Tls. 125 sellers
South China Morning Post, Limited	6,000	\$25	\$25	none	Dr. \$56,602	None	... \$23 1/2 buyers
Steam Laundry Company, Limited	20,000	\$25	\$5	none	\$63	40 cents for year ending 31.5.09	7 % \$11
United Waterboat Company, Limited	50,000	\$10	\$10	none	\$172	60 cents for year ending 31.12.08	5 % \$10 1/2 sales
United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$5	\$46,000	\$342	60 cents per ord. share for year ending 31.5.09	6 1/2 % \$12 1/2 buyers
Watson (U.S.) & Co., Limited	90,000	\$10	\$10	\$300,000 \$5,000	\$2,613	Final of 30 cts. for 1908	6 1/2 % \$7 1/2 sales
William Powell, Limited	15,000	\$7	\$7	none	\$782	Final of 30 cts. making 80 cts. for the year ended 30th June, 1906	... \$3 sellers
RUBBERS.							
Anglo-Malay Rubber Company, Limited (fully paid)	1,500,000	2/-	2/-	none	none	Interim of 1 1/2 % for account 1909	... 13 1/3 buyers
Balagowrie Rubber Estate, Limited	20,000	\$1	\$10	none	\$7,409	20 % interim for 1909	... \$80 sellers
Castlefield Rubber Estate, Limited	37,650	£1	£1	none	\$11,805	2/6 for 1909	... 50/- buyers
Damansara (Selangor) Rubber Co.	110,000	£1	£1	none	£2,320	None	... 80/- sellers
Golconda M. J. Rubber Co.	8,000	£1	£1	none	none	None	... 51/- buyers
Highland & Lowland Para. Rubber Co. (fully paid)	181,454	£1	£1	none	none	7 1/2 % interim for 1909	... 60/- buyers
Kamuning (Perak) Rubber Co. (contributory)	123,544	£1	£1	£8,784	none	None	... nominal
do. do. A shares	950,000	2/-	1/-	none	none	None	... 3/6 buyers
do. do. B shares	101,000	2/-	1/-	none	none	None	... nominal
Kuala Lumpur Rubber Co., Limited	180,000	£1	£1	none	none	None	... 87/- buyers
Linggi Plantations, Limited (ordinary)	900,000	£1	£1	none	none	20 % for year ending 31.6.08	... 24/- buyers
do. do. (7% pref.)	10,000	£1	£1	none	none	Interim of 40% = 9d. for account 1909	... nominal
Ragalla Rubber Company, Limited (ordinary)	22,500	£1	£1	£4,000	none	7 % for year 1908	... \$10 sellers
do. do. (8% pref.)	2,500	\$10	\$10	none	none	15 % for year ending 31.12.08	... nominal
Ledbury Rubber Estate, Limited	6,000	\$10	\$10	none	none	None	... 47/-
do. do. (contributory)	40,000	£1	£1	none	none	None	... 25/-
Sagor Rubber Company, Limited	20,000	£1	£1	none	none	Interim of 60 % for 1909	... 95/- buyers
Sandycroft Rubber Company	1,000	\$10	\$10	\$20,000	\$1,775	2 % for 1908	... 10/- sellers
Sekong Rubber Company, Limited	80,000	£1	£1	none	none	None	... 24/- sellers
Shelford Rubber Estate, Limited	25,000	£1	£1	none	none	None	... \$30 sellers
Singapore & Johore Rubber Company, Limited	45,000	\$100	\$100	none	none	None	... 23 1/2 buyers
Sungei Choh Rubber Estate Company, Limited	45,000	\$100	\$100	none	none	7 1/2 % interim for 1909	... 7 1/2 sales
Sungei Kapar Rubber Company	110,000	£1	£1	none	£3,448	None	... none

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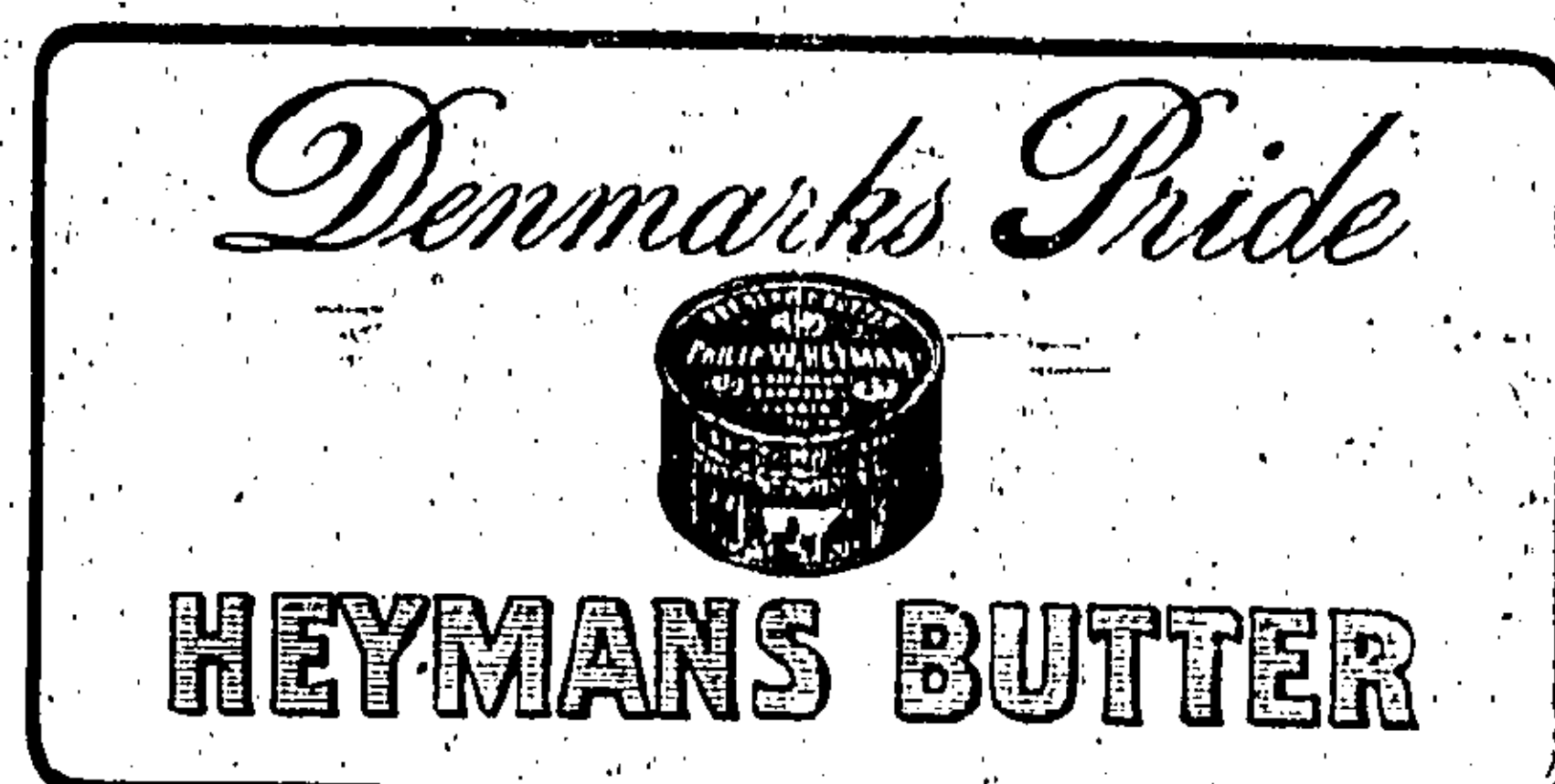
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DEATHS.

On December 4, 1909, at Shanghai, the wife of J. T. Ford, of a daughter.

On December 8, 1909, at Pootung, the wife of J. Houshar, of a son.

On December 9, 1909, at Shanghai, the wife of O. A. Mader, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On December 4, 1909, at Shanghai, William Sims Featherstonhaugh to Mary Sydney, elder daughter of the late Thomas Boyd and Mrs. David Campbell, of Shanghai.

On December 7, 1909, at Shanghai, Kenneth, son of Stephen Watson, of Birkenhead, to Kate Alice, daughter of the late William Baker and Mrs. Baker of Southsea, Hants.

DEATHS.

On December 4, 1909, at Shanghai, Florence Ellis, beloved wife of Capt. Patterson (late I. M. Customs), 20 Range Road.

On December 8, 1909, at Huchow, Emma P. Filley, wife of the Rev. Edward Filley.

THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.

ISSUED GRATIS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1909.

WHEN DIVORCE IS IMPOSSIBLE.

(13th December.)

Recent London papers have announced the formation of a Commission to inquire into the question of divorce for the common people. At present the cost of a successful divorce suit is so prohibitive that the poor man or woman in England has no remedy for an action which would be lightly entered into as a diversion and a sporting event, by the rich and which would be for the benefit of the parties concerned. Nobody can deny that two people who have discovered that their views of life and their temperaments are wholly incompatible should be allowed to loosen the shackles of matrimony, so long as the procedure, ensured the maintenance of high moral principles in the state. In England, the idea has long been growing

that the process of the divorce court should be reduced in order to give the poorest class of plaintiffs an opportunity of having their wrongs righted, before greater harm is done to the family life by the illegal or mutual dissolution of the marriage bond on the part of one of the parties to the case, leaving the other with no redress, no chance of entering into such relations with another party as would befit the re-formation of a home. This new Commission is pledged to frame a scheme whereby such an illogical condition of affairs should be remedied and the boon of the rich extended to the poor. But if this Commission is to do its work properly and thoroughly it must turn its attention to the Crown Colonies and extend the privilege of establishing local divorce courts to them also. In the course of a case which was mentioned in the Supreme Court of this Colony some time ago, it leaked out that the cost of severing a tangled marriage tie ran away with \$20,000 or \$30,000 and the proceedings in that instance were exceedingly simple. What it would have been had the questions of fact been complicated it is impossible to say. But surely it is absurd that if two parties—being mutually antipathetic to such an extent that one knowingly wrongs the other—if the parties having arrived at that stage when divorce is the only cure for what is obviously a life's blunder and consequently desire to obtain a decree of divorce are prevented from doing so because of their poverty there is something decidedly wrong with the law. As it is, if a party resident in Hongkong wished to obtain a divorce he or she would have either to be a taipan well on the way to being a millionaire or simply abandon the Colony and leave the other individual to make the best of a bad job. That is not as it should be by any means and if the Commission fails to recognise the disabilities under which Hongkong rests in this respect it will have failed in part of its most important duty. In America the reform of the question of divorce was investigated by a commission appointed by President Roosevelt and as the result of that inquiry it was reported among other interesting facts, that there were in 1900 more than twice as many marital separations in the United States than in any other country in the world. In attempting to define the relation of divorce to social morality the *Boston Transcript* finds itself upon very delicate ground and dealing with an extremely difficult problem. To the ecclesiastical critic the bare fact of legal divorce is conclusive evidence of immorality. And, in his mind, the morals of society can only be preserved by its entire abolition. This is a short and easy method, but it resembles Dr. Langraue's simple remedy for all forms of disease which, having the merits of simplicity and consistency, had also the conspicuous defect of not curing the patient! Divorce may be the symptom of a serious moral disease, revealing the presence of selfishness and the absence of healthy self-restraint in the body politic. But it may mean and often does mean qualities of an entirely different type. It frequently offers escape from an enforced bondage fatal alike to happiness and self-respect. Bernard Shaw says: "Marriage as modified by the divorce laws in South Dakota would be called mere promiscuity in Clapham. Yet the Americans, far from taking a profligate and cynical view of marriage, do homage to its ideals with a seriousness that seems old-fashioned in Clapham." And Clapham is the synonym of extreme conservatism. The great Irishist is entirely justified. Paradoxical as it may seem, the very communities in which divorce has popular approval often have a higher sense of the sanctity of the marriage relation than is found among peoples who will not tolerate divorce, but look with complacency upon serious irregularities. Beyond question a rational divorce system in America has come to stay, and many people are asking the pertinent question: Will it advance the interest of the public welfare so to amend the Federal Constitution as to permit the creation of a national law of divorce? Once recognize that a South Dakota divorce, with all its legal consequences, is valid in every State in the Union, and there will be no need of a constitutional amendment. People who are clamouring for a uniform divorce law fail to see the inestimable value of the dual system of government. All legislation is still in the experimental stage and should, therefore, be flexible, and easily adjustable to changing social conditions. And to have fifty closely related but independent governments profiting by each other's successes and avoiding each other's mistakes, is an advantage shared by no other political system in the world. That may be the Boston idea but it is not the opinion held by the world. However, we are not interested to argue the point as to the advantages of "divorce while you wait" the principle in force in certain American States, but we will say that better a diversified divorce law throughout the Empire than no law at all, or what amounts to the same thing—a law which is so costly to put into operation that only the wealthy can afford to invoke its aid.

CANTON SELF-GOVERNMENT SOCIETY.

(14th December.)

By all appearances the last meeting of the Self-Government Society in Canton was of a very peaceable character, and the members behaved themselves with that decorum and gravity which is expected of a body organized, without any authority whatever, to discuss matters of national or civic import. If the officials of the Self-Government Society would abide by that attitude it is possible that in the future they might come to be recognized as a valuable source of information which could be drawn upon by the Provincial Government in times of difficulty not necessarily involving international questions. As a matter of fact we hold that it is pure impertinence on the part of a self-constituted society of progressives, we will call them, to seek to interfere in the foreign affairs of the Imperial Government. Such conduct is only calculated to lead to irritation on the part of all concerned, and to handicap the diplomatic doings of the Chinese Government. If the society were to confine its exertions solely to the material improvement of the Provinces of Kwangtung and Kwangsi it would have quite enough to do, without embroiling and handicapping the Provincial Government in outside squabbles. What, for instance, does the average Cantonese member, no matter how travelled and experienced in diplomatic ways, know about conditions in Manchuria at the present time? To those who have been studying the subject it would seem as if no two opinions which can be reconciled are yet forthcoming. And yet the Self-Government Society of Canton in its egotism and unblushing assurance would adopt the role of Imperial Censor and denounce the action of an official, although they can have no reasons, for that action before them by which they would form an accurate and reasonable judgment. Now, such pretensions on the part of a number of private individuals are not only foolish but they are imbecile, to say nothing of their being subversive of good order and good government. As for the letters which had been received denouncing the President of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs—well, there are always grumblers and detractors, for it is a trait of human nature that it is always more ready to depreciate than to praise. And what was the result of this academic discussion at the meeting of the Self-Government Society held the other day at Canton? It was resolved to "telegraph to the Chinese residing in foreign countries asking them to submit joint telegraphic petitions to the Imperial Government to urge the dismissal of H. R. Liang Tun Yen from his post." All we can say about that idea is that the shareholders of the telegraph companies are not likely to object to such a practical scheme which will put money in their pockets. But it is a sorry waste of hard cash, and an absurd proceeding from start to finish. Once upon a time, there existed in Hongkong, and perhaps it still exists, a society known as the Parliamentary Debating Club, if we remember aright, at whose meetings members boldly set out to solve the financial, commercial and social questions of the Colony in a single night. It did not affect the matter that such financial problems as those of subsidiary coinage, excessive mintage of silver, and methods of raising fresh revenue were taxing the deepest thought of the Colony's most talented advisers, who had to confess that they could not in many cases arrive at a solution which would not adversely affect the general interests of the community. Our amateur politicians brushed aside difficulties as a housewife sweeps away cobwebs and settled everything to their own entire satisfaction in a couple of hours. Of course, it must have been of very amusing to the visitors and pleasant for the speakers to hear their resonant voices thundering out splendid periods about matters in regard to which they had formed definite and irrefragable opinions, but best of all, it harmed nobody. It humoured the young generation and the Government could afford to smile at the earnestness of the orators. But in the case of the Self-Government Society of Canton, although it cannot claim a higher status than that occupied by the debating society here, real mischief may be caused on account of its active meddlingness in matters which they cannot possibly comprehend. That they could do much good in a small way by leading public opinion in the direction and keeping the Government in touch with the people we do not doubt for an instant, but, as it is, their capacity for evil is infinitely greater as the tendency appears to be more pronounced in the latter direction. So far as we can make out the only legitimate subject touched upon by the Society at its recent meeting was that dealing with the salt monopoly of Kwangtung. If the members stuck to such subjects they would prove of invaluable assistance to the state but when they dive into abstruse questions of diplomatic concern they are likely to become a danger to the peace of the province as well as a public nuisance. There is in every enlightened community a place for a body of citizens qualified to express an intelligent opinion on current affairs, and the sooner the Self-Government Society recognizes that fact and limits its operations accordingly the better will it be for the members themselves and for Canton.

TYPHOON WARNING.

The following telegram was received at the American Consulate-General from the Manila Observatory at 10.30 a.m. yesterday:—
December 17th, 9.30 a.m. Cyclone or typhoon in South of Western Carolines, direction unknown.

REVENUE OFFICERS Wilden and Mackenzie in the Police Court last Saturday charged two Chinese with obstructing them in the execution of their duty. From the evidence adduced, it appears that the officials yesterday boarded the *S. S. Siberia* at Quarry Bay with a view to detecting any smuggled goods. On board they saw a Chinese woman, whom they asked for some beer, which a Chinese lad supplied and for which the woman was paid. The revenue officials were then about to have the woman and the boy arrested when the defendants are said to have interfered. A fine of \$25 was imposed on each of the defendants.

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

HUNAN-HUPEH RAILWAY.

THE LOAN AGREEMENT.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 10th December.

On the 8th inst., the British Minister called on H. E. Hsu Shih-chang, president of the Ministry of Posts and Communications, and conferred with him on the subject of the loan for the construction of the Hunan-Hupeh Railway.

KALGAN RAILWAY

A DIFFICULT PROJECT.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 10th December.

The Ministry of Posts and Communications has memorialized the Throne to the effect that the construction of the Kalgan Railway is a very difficult undertaking. The cost will be enormous.

The Ministry recommends that this line should be built gradually.

YUNNAN-SZCHUAN RAILWAY.

AMERICAN ENGINEERS APPOINTED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 10th December.

Two American Engineers have been engaged for the Yunnan-Szechuan Railway, but they are under the direction of Taotai Jeme Tien-yow, as Engineer-in-Chief.

CHINESE NATIONAL COSTUMES.

RUMOURS IN PEKING.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 12th December.

There are persistent rumours in Peking that the Prince Regent has given instructions to the Board of Civil Affairs to consider the expediency of cutting off the queue and the changing of the national costume.

LIANG TUN-IN.

ACCORDED SPECIAL PRIVILEGE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 12th December.

An Imperial edict has been issued granting Liang Tun-in permission to ride on horseback within the Forbidden City.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMISSIONERS.

CANDIDATES WANTED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 12th December.

The Waiwupu has telegraphed to Hupeh, Kiangsi, and Kwangtung to be on the look out for able officials for appointment as Foreign Affairs Commissioners.

SHANGHAI TAOTAI.

PROSPECTIVE PROMOTION.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 12th December.

Chan Kwei-lung, Viceroy of Chihli, has recommended Tsai Nai-huang, Shanghai Taotai, for appointment to a higher office.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

MUZZLING THE PRESS.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 12th December.

It is proposed by the Grand Council to prohibit the Press from publishing reports of negotiations with Foreign Powers.

SHUN KAI-NAI.

THE REGENT'S RESPECTS.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 12th December.

On the 11th inst., the Prince Regent proceeded to the residence of the late Shun Kai-nai and paid his

respects before the tablet of the deceased.

His Imperial Highness was much affected by the poverty of the appointments in the house.

CHINESE IN DUTCH COLONIES.

MINISTER'S SOLICITUDE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 13th December.

The Chinese Minister to Holland has telegraphed to the Central Government asking that immediate steps should be taken for the protection of Chinese residents in the Dutch colonies, otherwise they will be compelled to become Dutch subjects.

FINANCIAL SUPERVISORS.

TREASURERS' OBSTRUCTION.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 13th December.

Most of the Financial Supervisors sent out by the Ministry of Finance have reported to the Ministry that the various Provincial treasurers have placed obstacles in their way. The finance ministers are so incensed that it is proposed to memorialize the Throne to have the treasurers severely dealt with.

CUSTOMS TAOTAI.

PROPOSED ABOLITION.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 13th December.

It is proposed by the Central Government to abolish the posts of Customs Taotai.

FOREIGN LOANS.

TIENTSIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PROPOSAL.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 13th December.

The Chinese Chamber of Commerce at Tientsin has wired to the Chamber of Commerce in different Provinces asking for joint action in raising funds to pay off the foreign loans.

It is reported that the majority of the Chambers communicated with acquiesce in the scheme.

CHIHLI VICEROYALTY.

TAKING OVER OFFICE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 14th December.

Chen Kwei-lung has fired the 18th inst. for taking over the seals of his new office as Viceroy of Chihli.

NETHERLANDS INDIES.

PROPOSED CHINESE CONSULATES.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 14th December.

The Waiwupu, having repeatedly received telegrams from the Chinese Minister to Holland urging that steps should be taken for the protection of Chinese residents, appointed the 14th inst. for discussing the matter with a view of establishing Chinese consulates in the Netherlands Indies.

SHANGHAI TAOTAI.

DECORATED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 14th December.

Chen Kwei-lung, in a memorial to the Central Government, recommended that Tsai Nai-huang, the Shanghai Taotai, be decorated with the First Rank button, for having given a substantial contribution towards the flood relief funds.

It is reported that an Imperial decree has been issued sanctioning the recommendation.

STATE TELEGRAMS.

THE REGENT'S INSTRUCTIONS.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 14th December.

The Prince Regent has given instructions to the Grand Council that all important telegrams re-

ceived from China or abroad should be submitted to him without delay instead of on the following day as heretofore.

NETHERLANDS INDIES.

CHINESE CONSULATES.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 16th December.

The Grand Council proposes to telegraph instructions to the Chinese Minister in Holland to arrange with the Dutch foreign office for a special treaty providing for the establishment of Chinese consulates in the Netherlands Indies.

The Minister will, at the same time, be requested to recommend competent Chinese residents for appointment as consuls.

TANG SHAO-YI.

SERIOUSLY ILL.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 15th December.

Yesterday Tang Shao-yi was suddenly taken ill with pain in the region of the heart; he was spitting blood at the same time.

Both European and Chinese physicians were sent for, but so far the patient has made no progress towards recovery.

HARBIN.

RUSSIA IN POSSESSION.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 15th December.

Russia has taken possession of Harbin in spite of the protest lodged by the other Powers.

BRUSSELS EXHIBITION.

CHINESE PARTICIPATING.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 15th December.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Commerce and Industries has telegraphed to the Chinese Minister at Brussels instructing him to apply to the Belgian Government for the allotment of a space on the Exhibition grounds for Chinese exhibits.

NAVAL REORGANISATION.

ENGAGEMENT OF FOREIGN INSTRUCTORS.

[By courtesy of the "Sheng Po."] Peking, 16th December.

The Central Government has wired to Prince Shun Pui-lap and Admiral Fah Chen-ping, the Naval Commissioners now in Europe, to the effect that, should they contemplate the engagement of any naval instructors, they must in the first instance consult the Chinese Ministers accredited to those countries at which the instructors are to be engaged.

Canton Self-Government Society.

HIGH OFFICIALS DENOUNCED.

MEETING AT CANTON.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 12th December.

On the 10th instant a public meeting was held by the Canton Self-Government Society when there was an exceptionally large number of people present. In order to prevent disturbances the Police authorities sent a deputy to superintend the meeting. Kwok Sin Chong acted as chairman and he was the first to address the gathering. He read out all the letters received to which the President of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Liang Tzu Yuen, was severely denounced for his error of judgment in connection with the Manchuria Convention, by which it is alleged China lost her sovereign rights over that territory. He pointed out also how H.E. Liang had prohibited the people from making comments on his unsatisfactory action and denounced him for lack of patriotism. The people listened to the speaker with considerable interest. It was agreed at the meeting to telegraph to the Chinese residing in foreign countries asking them to submit joint telegraphic petitions to the Imperial Government to urge the dismissal of H.E. Liang Tzu Yuen from his post. A telegram was accordingly drafted by the meeting and subsequently despatched.

With regard to the closing of the *Mus Hu Yat Po*, a vernacular newspaper at Shanghai, by order of the Shanghai Taotai, Tai Nai Hsueh, for making editorial comments alleged to be unfavorable to the Japanese, the people considered Taotai Tai to be a flatterer. He gave orders to close a newspaper of his own country to please foreigners. It was the opinion of the meeting to sever their good relationship with Taotai Tai and not to recognise him in future as a Cantonese, if he fails to make reparation after being requested to do so. Consequently a telegram was drafted and despatched to Taotai Tai reproaching him for his mistake in closing the paper in question with the object of inducing him to raise the ban.

With regard to the Salt Monopoly of the Kwangtung province, the people were all agreed to protest against its being farmed out to merchants for the enormous annual rental as reported the other day, lest the monopolists should raise the price of the commodity considerably thus adding difficulty to the increased cost of living of the people, especially to the poor classes. It was ultimately agreed to submit this question to the Provincial Assembly for discussion and for decision.

A SOLDIER'S DEATH.

CORONER'S INQUEST AT THE MAGISTRACY.

An inquiry was held, Mr. E. R. Hallifax presiding, at the Magistrate's yesterday afternoon touching the death of one Gunner Cook on the 21st November last. The jury were as follows: Messrs. F. J. Heinhall, J. M. G. Pereira and H. Greig.

Gunner Wm. Allan, R. G. A., stated that four Saturdays ago, he went in company with the deceased to a concert at the R. E. Bank. Afterwards, they went to the Praya East Hotel and on leaving that place they met a coloured member of the Hongkong-Singapore Battalion, R. G. A., who asked them to come to a place where they could have a decent sing-song. Witness tried to persuade the deceased to return to barracks, but the latter refused to acquiesce in the request and that was the last he saw of the deceased that night. They left the Praya East Hotel at about 12.30 and at the time the deceased was neither drunk nor was he quite capable of looking after himself. Deceasee was followed by a witness who was aware, carried on money at the time and had only taken beer shandy but no mixed drinks.

In answer to a question put to him by one of the jury, witness stated that the deceased had had no worry or embarrassment which could have led him to commit suicide. Witness knew him well.

Dr. Shore, Fleet-Surgeon attached to the *Tamar*, deposed to having made a post-mortem examination of the dead body of the deceased at the Victoria Mortuary on the 22nd November last and found that the cause of death was drowning. There were some slight bruises on the back and an abrasion not amounting to a bruise on the bone at the edge of the hip. There were no other marks of any description and, in his opinion, none of the marks could have accounted for his death.

Sergeant W. G. Sutton, of the Water Police, stated that at 12 noon on the 21st November last, he picked up the dead body of a European soldier in Hung Hom Bay. He found the body lying in five feet of water close to the praya near the new reclamation wall. The body was lying face downwards and the arms were crossed under the body and the legs were also crossed. He had the body removed to the Police Station. Deceased must have fallen over the Hung Hom Bay Wall. The body at the time of its recovery was quite fresh and, in his opinion, it must have been lying in the water for four or five hours.

Sergeant W. N. Edwards stated that he searched the dead body of the deceased at about 1 p.m. on the 21st November and identified the same as that of Gunner Cook. He found some money and the front of decessed's shirt bore the name of Gunner Cook.

At the conclusion of the last witness' evidence, one of the jury asked to hear the evidence of the coloured man who had last been seen with the deceased by Gunner Allan. His Worship concurred and said it was a serious matter and that they should hear as much evidence as could possibly be obtained. The further hearing of the inquiry was adjourned till the 24th instant.

AMERICAN TOURISTS ROBBED.

CHINESE PICKPOCKET CAUSES A LIVELY SCENE.

A number of American tourists were last Thursday the victims of an abortive attempt at pick-pocketing at the hands of a Chinese pickpocket. It appears that the pleasure-seekers, who were on a visit to Hongkong from Manila, were doing the sights of the city when one of the party felt a tug at her purse, which contained some \$100 in Philippine currency. The next moment the purse vanished from the victim's person and with it vanished the wily snatcher, who had been watching the party for some time. Then followed a hot chase in which a motley crowd of soldiers, sailors and the police participated and it was not long before he with the purse was overtaken and safely lodged in Victoria Gaol. He appeared before Mr. E. R. Hallifax on Friday morning and was awarded six months and ten strokes of the birch. We are unable to tell whether the offender has been released or not, but we do know that at the end of six months, the wretched thief will not have much more for a chase.

SERIOUS APPRAISAL AT MACAO.

GERMAN SAILORS KILLED AND WOUNDED.

15th inst.

Reports, though of a somewhat fragmentary and incoherent form, were received in Hongkong to-day which point to the occurrence of a somewhat serious affair having taken place at Macao, resulting, to it is reported, in the death of one German sailor and the serious wounding of another. We have pursued inquiries from all sources of likely authentic information locally to corroborate the stories we have received from Macao, but it appears that our reports of the occurrence are the only ones that have up to the present reached Hongkong. From all that we gather, the regrettable fatal incident occurred on Monday, one version fixing the time at the early hour of morning before dawn, and the other at night. However it may be, the reports agree that two German sailors belonging to the river gunboat *Thingtau* had been ashore and visited a public bar in the city. That they had indulged in intoxicants the reports also coincide, but the versions are divergent as to their imbricated condition upon leaving the public-house. Any way, it is stated that, as the sailors were leaving the bar, a civilian, probably the tavern keeper, went up to the men and demanded payment for the refreshment with which they had been served. The Germans are alleged to have remonstrated against a demand for a second payment of money, since, they declared, the price of the drinks had already been paid. From words of the dispute went on to blows and, in the midst of the drunken brawl, so the story proceeds to relate, it is alleged the civilian drew out a revolver and fired at one of the sailors who was mortally wounded. The man's companion is said to have been stabbed, whether by the same assailant or another individual there is no statement as to which of the two was the offender. The wounded condition the Germans are supposed to have either found their way on board the *Thingtau* or were removed to their ship. On this point also our reports are altogether obscure.

The sailor, who was shot, expired from his injuries on board the gunboat yesterday, while his companion is lying in a precarious condition under the ship's surgeon's care. The dead body of the German sailor was removed to the Military Hospital at Macao yesterday where a post-mortem examination was held. Deceased was to have been buried at Macao at ten o'clock in the forenoon to-day.

As far as we could learn, no arrests have yet been effected although the Police authorities at Macao are conducting searching investigations into the case.

Our information leads to the belief that a formal report of the case has been lodged with the Governor of Macao by the Commander of the *Thingtau*, and that the report has had the earnest attention of the Portuguese authorities.

THREE ARRESTS EFFECTED.

By to-day's mail from Macao we have received confirmation of the report printed in last evening's *Telegraph* of the shooting and killing of one German sailor and the wounding of another at Macao on Monday last. Both were bluejackets belonging to the river gunboat *Thingtau*. It appears that on Sunday evening, the 14th inst., the two sailors visited the drinking and billiard saloon of one Antonio Gomes, in Rua do Auto Novo. The men had their drinks and paid for them, drawing out of their pockets purses containing a quantity of sovereigns. The gold pieces attracted the cupid of certain individuals and, it is alleged, that robbery was the motive that led to the perpetration of the dastardly crime.

After leaving the saloon the sailors were making their way to the wharf in the inner harbour to get back to their ship. Arriving at one of the lanes, known as Rua da Lorchia, near the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co.'s wharf, the sailors were held up and asked to stand and deliver. In the ensuing altercation which followed one of the Germans was fired at in the hip while the other was stabbed by the second of the two assailants.

The report of the revolver shot attracted the attention of a member of the police force (No. 50) who was patrolling the district at the time. The man hastened to the scene of the outrage and upon his appearance the highlanders took to their heels.

The wounded sailors got back to the gunboat, and on Tuesday the bluejacket who received the fatal revolver shot expired, as already reported, and the life of the other man is deemed of.

The occurrence took place at one o'clock in the morning of Monday.

The funeral, which was an extremely impressive one, took place at 3 p.m., yesterday. It was accorded full naval honours, and was very largely attended, considerable sympathy being felt with the victim of the cowardly assault. Besides the friends and comrades of the deceased from the *Thingtau*, those forming the mournful cortege included a naval contingent and a group of men from the Portuguese gunboat *Portia* and various units from the local garrison at Macao.

It is reported that three arrests have been effected in connection with the sad affair. One [no name given], a freeman, attached to the Public Works Department, is now in custody pending magisterial inquiry. He was arrested yesterday afternoon. At the preliminary investigation he disclaimed all knowledge of the affair and appears to retain absolute composure under examination.

The second arrest was that of Antonio Gomes, the proprietor of the drinking saloon, who was taken to the lock-up last night.

The third suspect in police custody is a sergeant attached to the medical department by name Perez.

While only two persons are supposed to be implicated in the fatal highway robbery, the Police authorities are leaving no avenue open for the escape of any accomplice by placing under arrest all who may be suspected of having conspired at the crime. It is reported that the surviving bluejacket is able to identify the assailants.

VOLUNTEER CORPS ORDERS.

ALL UNITS.

Parade at Headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on Monday, the 20th instant, for military instructions and rifle exercises. Instructor: Sgt. Wallis.

Sergeant J. Crawford is permitted to resign with effect from the 10th instant.

Gr. T. G. Turnbull of No. 1 Coy. is granted leave of absence for 12th months with effect from the 21st November.

NO. 2 COY. H. K. V. A.

At a meeting of the shooting committee held on the 14th instant the following alterations were made in the handicaps:—

C. S. Moy	5 to 8
Corpl. Say	20 to 29
Corpl. Lock	20 to 29
Br. Mack	8 to 5
Gr. Tollin	5 to 8
Gr. R. Judah	24 to 27
Gr. Rodriguez	21 to 27
Gr. Marshall	8 to 5
Gr. Elphinstone	10 to 12
Gr. A. Carvalho	18 to 19
Gr. R. Carvalho	18 to 27
Gr. R. Carvalho	18 to 27

"SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST" LTD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The seventh annual ordinary general meeting of the *South China Morning Post*, Limited, was held in the offices of Dr. F. W. Noble, at Bank Buildings, Queen's Road Central, at noon last Wednesday. There were present:—Mr. G. C. Moxon (in the chair) and Mr. P. M. Hodgson, directors; Messrs. Geo. T. Lloyd (general manager and editor), T. Petrie and E. B. Ayris. Gentlemen.—The report and accounts having been in your hands for some days, I will, with your permission, take them as read. The directors regret that the result of the year's working is not as favourable as that of the previous year, but when the depression in trade—so general, and the other at night. However it may be, the reports agree that two German sailors belonging to the river gunboat *Thingtau* had been ashore and visited a public bar in the city. That they had indulged in intoxicants the reports also coincide, but the versions are divergent as to their imbricated condition upon leaving the public-house. Any way, it is stated that, as the sailors were leaving the bar, a civilian, probably the tavern keeper, went up to the men and demanded payment for the refreshment with which they had been served. The Germans are alleged to have remonstrated against a demand for a second payment of money, since, they declared, the price of the drinks had already been paid. From words of the dispute went on to blows and, in the midst of the drunken brawl, so the story proceeds to relate, it is alleged the civilian drew out a revolver and fired at one of the sailors who was mortally wounded. The man's companion is said to have been stabbed, whether by the same assailant or another individual there is no statement as to which of the two was the offender. The wounded condition the Germans are supposed to have either found their way on board the *Thingtau* or were removed to their ship. On this point also our reports are altogether obscure.

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As far as we could learn, no arrests have yet been effected although the Police authorities at Macao are conducting searching investigations into the case.

Our information leads to the belief that a formal report of the case has been lodged with the Governor of Macao by the Commander of the *Thingtau*, and that the report has had the earnest attention of the Portuguese authorities.

OUTWARD BOUND.

IMPRESSIONS OF A PASSENGER ON THE "PEMBROKESHIRE."

A passenger who has just arrived from home on the R. M. S. P. *Pembroke* writes as follows:—

If a novel is described as a tale of the sea, the reader must prepare himself for strange explorations into the realm of fiction, and as a matter of hard fact the tale says about various places we pass on route often prove themselves to be fables. As we approached the Bay of Biscay, the sea was rough and the ship was tossed about. It was all wasted and the sea was as calm and the sunshines as glorious as we were told we could not enjoy before we entered the blue waters of the Mediterranean. So it continued, and the third day of the Red Sea was witnessed by the soothing balm of soft breezes. Perhaps for the first time in its brief existence *Port Said* deserves a good word—it was cool, but, Oh such a great, but, God made Heaven and Earth but "I have no doubt" whether *Port Said* was not the handiwork of the Saviour's Majesty.

Indeed, the dusky figures of the howling colliers, conjured up to my imagination the lost soul of Dante's Inferno. Luck has been with us and we passed through the Straits of Babel-mandib (The Gates of Hell) with even a kindly memory of the Red Sea. It is easy to understand why many folk have away from the fog and wretchedness of an English winter when the R. M. S. P. Co. say, "Pack your boxes; come with us. We will surround you with comfort, give you the opportunity of travelling in the most beautiful weather, take you to Far Japan, and bring you back in time for the appearance of King Sol in our neglected Isles."

They carry out their contract well, and Capt. Hayes never forgets that the passengers on board the *Pembroke* are a composite body, made up of seekers after health, disciples of pleasure, and residents in the East, returning to their adopted homes. He takes them all under his wing, and while every sport and recreation possible has been indulged in—the mothers on board have been able to join in because the children have been perfectly good tempered as they have been so well catered for. So with this comfortable, state of things I have been able to sit lazily on deck trying to put on to paper the butterflies of my thoughts.—*Strait Times*.

GOLF.

A match between the Royal Hongkong Golf Club and the United Services took place at the Happy Valley on the 12th instant with the following results:—

Royal Hongkong Golf Club. United Services.

Mr. A. W. Walker	Lieut. Monteth
Mr. O. Hutchison	Lt. Col. Chamier
Mr. J. Johnston	Major Gaisford
Mr. M. Murray	Major Gaisford
Mr. W. Ironside	Major Gaisford
Mr. C. E. Antonio	Lieut. Redwell
Mr. J. Douglas	Capt. Clapham
Mr. A. Morley	Lieut. Bagnall

MESSRS. WALKINSHAW and HUTCHISON. Lt. Monteth and Major Gaisford.

MESSRS. JOHNSON and MURRAY. Major Gaisford.

MESSRS. IRONSIDES and ANTONIO. Major Gaisford.

MESSRS. DOUGLAS and MORLEY. Capt. Clapham and Lieut. Bagnall.

A CHINAMAN was last Monday charged with returning from banishment and stealing a brass bell from the South China Academy, for which he was given one year and six hours' stocks and three months' imprisonment. Another Chinaman was awarded six months' hard labour and six hours' stocks for returning from banishment.

TIMOR OIL FIELDS, LTD.

REGISTRATION IN LONDON.

We learn from the Portuguese weekly—*A Verdade*—of Macao that a company has been registered in London under the style of Timor Oil Fields, Ltd. The capital is £15,000 sterling, in shares of a nominal value of £1. The object of the company is to acquire the lease in the Portuguese territory of the Island of Timor of oil fields and of prospecting such concessions. The first directors of the company are Messrs. A. Findlay, Dela Hay Moors, G. A. Davey, W. G. Gellert, W. H. Richards, W. H. Morgan and T. White.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN TRADE.

The *Japan Chronicle* prints the report of a speech delivered on the afternoon of the 1st instant by Baron Oka, the Osaka Chamber of Commerce, on Japan's foreign trade. According to the Japanese Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, the industrial and commercial development of the country depended entirely on the energy of the people. It was to be regretted that the people were so much cast down at the prevailing depression in trade. It was a mistake to be either optimistic or pessimistic at a temporary manifestation of the course of trade. People must persevere and adapt themselves to their business circumstances. They should boldly advance, plucking up spirit and striving for a sound industrial and commercial development. The result of the foreign trade of Japan this year was very unsatisfactory as compared with 1907; but up to the middle of last month (November) it had been in favour of exports, which showed an excess of over ¥4,000,000 over imports. Usually exports increased in the latter half of the year, and there was no doubt that the present year would show an excess of exports over imports such as had not been seen for many years. On this fact, compared with advanced countries in Europe and America, industry and commerce in Japan were yet in a primitive condition, leaving much room for improvement. In the foreign trade of Japan two distinct currents were running. One was the increasing import of raw materials from foreign countries and the other the increasing export of the manufactured goods by means of improved machinery. These largely included goods manufactured from raw materials imported from abroad. Such a state of affairs in foreign trade would show that Japan was going to play a part as a manufacturing country. As was well known, the trade of Japan with European countries had always been on the side of imports, and Japan had remained the debtor country, but the excess of export in the trade with China and the United States had offset the unfavorable difference in the trade between Japan and European countries, and an equilibrium of exports and imports thus practically obtained. This condition of foreign trade should be noted. The foreign trade of Japan had great prospect in the Oriental countries, which had large populations for the most part and remained still uncivilized, thus offering a promising market. In particular China was the market for the trade of the world powers. Osaka had very close relations with the China trade, and the ups and downs of that trade would affect the welfare of the port. Osaka was destined to become the centre of the commerce and industry of the Empire. This made the responsibility of Osaka business-men very heavy, and it was to be hoped that they would be earnest in their business more than ever. In the present condition of the China trade some doubt was felt whether Japanese business-men were discharging their duty to the full. Certain lines of Japanese goods found large sales abroad, but their reputation quickly collapsed on account of deterioration in quality. As a result the market for them fell off, which was a matter to be deplored. This was particularly the case with the manufacture of Osaka. Innumerable were the Japanese goods, which were exported in large quantities for a time, but which soon lost their market on account of bad quality. Manufacturers were not slow to blame for that. Merchants should share the responsibility as long as the evil of turning out goods of inferior quality was left unchecked, a further increase in the foreign trade of Japan was hopeless. It was merely a temporary expedient to organize a guild of merchants engaged in foreign trade in Osaka. What was necessary was for Japanese manufacturers and merchants to adopt sound rules for their guilds and carry out a proper examination of goods or promote direct export in their lines. They should combine to remove the evil of bad quality referred to. It was high time for Chambers of Commerce to establish a fixed policy for foreign trade, to arouse public opinion, and discharge their duty of guiding manufacturers and merchants. Especially should the Chambers co-operate with business guilds for the extension of the market of Japanese goods abroad. It was important that commerce and industry or the sale and manufacture of goods should go on side by side, always keeping in close touch with each other. Whatever progress might be made by manufacturers, if merchants were tempted by immediate profit without regard to permanent advantage, the evil of deterioration in the quality of goods sold by no means be removed. The two branches of business should work side by side for improvement in the quality of the goods and cultivation among business-men of commercial morality. In the *Dashu* Receipt issued in October last, his Majesty the Emperor warned the people that they must be true in heart and act under strict guidance of the principles of justice. Truth and justice should be particularly observed by business-men. The promotion of foreign trade formed one of the most important of post-bellum undertakings, and the success of this work devolved on the shoulders of the business-men. In concluding the Minister invited his hearers to direct their attention to the measures which they deemed desirable to be taken for the encouragement of trade with China, which had a vital bearing on the prosperity of Osaka. He himself would promptly attend to any suggestion that might be made.

CAPTAIN DROWNED.

MASTER OF THE "TAISANG" IN NATAL GIG ACCIDENT.

Captain Matthews, formerly chief officer, brought the British steamer *Taisang* in from Amoy, the vessel arriving last evening from that port, says the *Manila Times* of November 25. While the ship was in Amoy, Captain Davies of the *Taisang* was drowned. In company with a doctor and a Chinese sailor he went sailing in his gig and in some way the little boat was overturned, spilling the occupants into the cold waters of the bay. The Chinese sailor was washed ashore and the doctor also, but the latter was unable to make his statement before the sailing of the *Taisang* for Manila.

Capt. Davies was a man of between 35 and 40 years of age and had been in command of the *Taisang* for a long time. Chief Officer Matthews was placed in temporary command of the steamer, but it is understood that Capt. Picknell, formerly of the *Loongang*, will take command of the *Taisang* on her return to the China coast.

BOGUS OPIUM FARMERS.

TRIED TO EMBROIDER PACKETS OF THE DRUG WITH OPIUM FARMER'S STAMPS.

15th inst.

Conduit Road was the scene of a curious capture yesterday afternoon. It appears that two Chinese, belonging to the class who are ever watchful for an opportunity to defraud the Opium Farmer, repaired to a convenient spot on the hillside and on arrival at the watering point, produced some packets of opium, on which they applied wrappers and stamps resembling the Opium Farmer's trade descriptions. The wily ones, however, received a rude shock when an officer of the law paid an unheralded visit to the scene of their nefarious operations. One of the men on seeing the uniformed official attempted to throw an electrified nearly identical to the Opium Farmer's official stamp onto some adjacent bushes but the block failed to find a convenient range and was promptly recovered in a side channel a little distance away by the policeman. This morning, Mr. G. Hogarth, Chief Excise Officer, charged the two men before Mr. E. R. Hallifax (First Police Magistrate) and were remanded. Bail was allowed in each instance in the sum of \$50.

A COMEDIAN'S CLAIM.

ACTION IN THE SUMMARY COURT.

Before Mr. Justice Gompertz (Police Judge) at the Summary Court yesterday morning, Mr. W. Lochrane, described as a Scotch comedian from Australia, brought an action against L. M. Levy and Company, of Shanghai, to recover the sum of \$878.98, being amount due for services rendered to the defendants as comedian at Mountfield Hall, Shanghai, and the Folio Barres, Shanghai, and to money lent. Mr. L. M. Almadia (of Messrs. Golding, Barlow and Morrell) appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. R. F. C. Master (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) represented the defendants.

It was stated on behalf of the defendants that the plaintiff was temporarily engaged in the capacity of comedian at the Victoria Cinema, and that he had been ordered to furnish security for costs.

Mr. Almadia objected, on the ground that the plaintiff was bound by a contract entered into with the Victoria Cinema, which would not terminate until some time at the end of next month. Nothing had been stated in the writ as to the plaintiff being out of the jurisdiction of the Court, which, therefore, had no power to direct security for costs unless that was so and that in any event the defendants should make a proper application supported by an affidavit in Chambers and give notice thereof to the plaintiff.

His Lordship concurred and fixed the 30th inst. for the hearing of the case.

THE AMERICAN INVASION.

TOURIST PARTY TAKES SINGAPORE BY STORM.

The Hamburg-America steamer *Gleadow*, with her 616-American tourists aboard, was a little late in arriving at Singapore, it being 6.30 a.m. to-day when she dropped anchor opposite the quarantine station, so that, after the usual quarantine formalities had been gone through with, the landing from the first launch at Johnston's Pier did not take place till 7.40 a.m. There were six launches employed in bringing the party ashore, all being the Raffles Hotel, Messrs. Barker Bros. being the local agents for Clark's Around the World Tours, of which this is the first arriving at Singapore.

The first few launches were packed from stern to stern with the members of the first division, for whom a special train was waiting at the Tank Road station to take them to Woollands, whence they will take the steam ferries to Johore. Motor-cars, victorias and gharries galloped hurriedly received this party and hustled them over to the station. Mr. C. B. Whitehead, asst. supt. of police, with acting Asst. Commr. of constabulary, European and native, materially assisted in bringing the carriages up to line and helping the tourists into them, while representatives of the Raffles Hotel and the lively staffs rendered invaluable aid. Boarding Officer Francis looked after the landing parties on the pier and detective Inspector Nolan, detective sergeant Garsdale and a few native detectives kept a sharp lookout for pickpockets and other light-fingered genies on the pier. As a rule, the best of good nature prevailed and the travellers accepted without demur the carriages assigned them, but a few were unwilling to go either to Johore or to the hotel, preferring to hire carriages by the hour to take in the sights on their own responsibility. As all the carriages available had been engaged for the regular programme, these independent folk were compelled for the moment to fall back on rickshaws and trams. It was noticeable that ladies preponderated in the party, most of them being of middle age, the number of young people being very small.

RUBBER RETURNS.

The following rubber crops are notified for the month of November:—Caledonia, 19,000 lbs.; Tali, Ayer, 10,000 lbs.; Selaba, 3,000 lbs.; Rubana, 10,000 lbs.; Gedong, 2,550 lbs.; Nova Scotia, 4,000 lbs.; Anglo-Malays, 45,565 lbs.; Pataling, 14,414 lbs.; London, 9,576 lbs.; Highlands and Lowlands, 3,680 lbs., making 205,010 lbs. for the first eleven months of this year, and Inch Kenneth, 21,810 lbs., against 1,836 lbs., making 59,411 lbs. for the six months against 7,993 lbs.

The manager of the Balgownie Rubber Estates, Ltd., reports that the rubber crop harvested during the month of November was 7,491 lbs. In the corresponding month of last year it was 3,734 lbs. The total for the first eight months, April to November was 38,845 lbs. and the total for the corresponding period of 1908 was 23,574 lbs.

The estimated out-put of dry rubber by the Malacca Rubber Plantations, for the month of November, is 29,000 lbs., compared with 6,100 lbs. for the same month last year.

Messrs. Barlow and Co., agents of the Highlands and Lowlands Para Rubber Co., Ltd., advise us that the yield of the Estates for November was 31,680 lbs. of rubber.

Details of the returns of the Inch Kenneth Rubber Estates Ltd. are as follows:—dry rubber for November, 11,848 lbs., for November last year 1,836 lbs. The dry rubber for the six months from June to November 30 (the first six months of the company's year) is 50,411 lbs. compared with 7,993 lbs. for the same period last year.

The manager of the Ledbury Rubber Estates, Ltd., reports that the rubber crop harvested during the month of November was 6,019 lbs. dry. The corresponding month last year it was 4,558 lbs. dry. The total for the first eleven months of 1909 is 57,700 lbs. dry; and that for the corresponding period of last year 23,574 lbs. dry.

THE MINSKEL PERFORMANCE.

By courtesy of the officers of the visiting ships of the U.S. Navy the Minskel Troupe of the 17th Virginia will give a performance on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, the 22nd and 23rd December, at the Theatre Royal, City Hall, under the distinguished patronage of His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.

This troupe is composed of many men who are specialists and a number of its members have seen service as professional minstrels on the stage in America. The last performance of the troupe was given at Honolulu where they drew crowded houses on two successive nights. The company will be supplemented by the *Will Virginia* orchestra. The proceeds of the entertainment will go to aid the fund of the Chinese Y.M.C.A. The tickets are the usual prices \$5, \$2, and \$1. Seats may be booked at Moutrie's.

U.S. CONSULATES IN CHINA.

RESOLUTION BY SAN FRANCISCO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The Chamber of Commerce of San Francisco favours the measure introduced in Congress to authorize the purchase of land and buildings in China, Japan and Corea for the United States Consular establishments in those countries. The trustees of the chamber at a meeting held recently adopted resolutions setting forth the importance of the matter to the interests of the Pacific Coast and to trade relations of the whole country.

The resolution sets forth that it is of importance to the proper representation of this country in the Orient that the Consular establishments maintained by the United States in those countries should be of a character commensurate with the dignity of the United States and the value of the trade relations with the Orient with regard to securing suitable quarters for offices and residences of Consular officers. It is such as to make it imperative that the Government of the United States should own the land and erect its own buildings and the trustees favour the passage of the bill introduced in Congress authorizing the Government to purchase land and erect buildings in China, Japan and Corea for such purposes.

Copies of the resolution will be sent to the President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives and to each member of the California Congressional delegation.

SERIOUS CHARGES AGAINST A LUKONG.

ALLEGATIONS OF MANSLAUGHTER AND BRIBERY.

A Chinese *lukong* was last Thursday charged before Mr. E. R. Hallifax, First Police Magistrate, with the alleged manslaughter of a Chinaman at No.

V. R. C. REGATTA.

SOME EXCITING FINISHES.

Patrons—His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O. His Excellency Major General Broadwood, C.B., D.S.O. Hon. Sir Henry May, K.C.M.G. Commodore H. Lyon, R.N. Hon. Sir C. P. Chater, K.C.M.G. Hon. Captain Basil Taylor, R.N.

Stewards—Messrs. J. I. Andrew, Hon. Captain Baderley, Doctor Francis Clark, R.M. Dyer, Doctor C. Forsyth, Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson, E. B. Kadoorie, C. J. Lafrenis, H. N. Mody, J. R. M. Smith, J. J. Stodart, Kennedy, R. Shewan, E. Shillim, A. Turner, H. P. Tucker, F. C. Willford.

Committee—Mr. T. E. Pearce, Acting Chairman. Messrs. H. B. Bridger, Mr. McIvor, W. A. Drake, Thos. Meek, C. D. Silas, L. E. Lammer, J. Rodger.

Judges—Messrs. A. A. Alves, G. A. Caldwell, F. Lammer, Thos. Meek.

Empire—Messrs. F. A. Mackintosh, M. McIvor, J. Rodger.

Starter—Mr. W. Hutton Potts.

Timekeepers—Messrs. J. Cruickshank, C. Dunlop.

Comptroller—Mr. M. A. A. Souza.

Sailing Rules—Messrs. M. E. F. Gibson, Mr. McIvor.

Umpire—Mr. E. M. Hareland.

Mr. A. A. Claxton, Acig. Hon. Treasurer.

Mr. R. L. Bridger, Acig. Hon. Secretary.

Delightful weather favoured the committee and members of the Victoria Recreation Club, on the occasion of their annual regatta last Saturday afternoon. By courtesy of Messrs. Geo. Fenwick and Co. Ltd., their spacious recreation ground at North Point, Causeway Bay, was kindly placed at the disposal of the V.R.C., whose committee availed themselves of the excellent site to provide accommodation for the comfort of the visitors who spent a pleasant afternoon watching the various events. The Club's launch, gallantly crewed for the occasion, left the Club wharf shortly after noon carrying a large contingent of members and officials of the Club. Arriving at Fenwick's recreation ground, it was served in the special stand that had been erected for the purpose and in which the committee and stewards entertained their guests. Another large stand was erected on the wooden pier and from this point of vantage, the spectators watched with keen interest the close finishes provided in the first two events of the afternoon's regatta.

The attendance at first was not very large, but after the International Race, the gathering in the grand stand was perceptibly increased and was considerably augmented after the arrival of His Excellency the Governor who, accompanied by Capt. P. H. M. Taylor, A.D.C., arrived on the grounds shortly after 3 p.m. by special car, provided by the Electric Traction Co., and in charge of Traffic Superintendent, Mr. A. Course. The Band of the Buffs greeted the arrival of the Governor with a few bars of the National Anthem. The afternoon's proceedings were considerably enlivened by pleasing selections discoursed by the regimental band under the conductorship of Mr. Hewitt.

The first race was timed to start at 1 p.m., but it was some little time before the competing boats lined up at the starting point. The delay was, however, inevitable, and the other events on the programme suffered in point of time in consequence.

We give the results of the various events below.

CHAIRMAN'S CHALLENGE CUP—For four-oars. Cup to be held by the winning crew but to remain the property of the Club. Distance, one mile. Entrance fee \$100. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

Thistle—Station No. 2—Blue.

Bow—H. S. Johnson 10 0

3—S. Bell 11 4

3—E. A. Calvar 10 3

Stroke—L. A. Musso 11 1

Cox—H. W. Petley 8 5

Leak—Station No. 1—Yellow.

Bow—J. M. Lopes 8 6

2—R. Galluzzi 10 8

3—F. L. da Rosa 10 8

Stroke—H. Rapp 10 0

Cox—R. F. Lammer 11 0

Royal Hongkong Yacht Club—Station No. 2—Red.

Bow—J. A. S. Alves 10 13

2—S. Bell 11 4

3—J. Forbes 10 7

Stroke—L. A. Musso 11 1

Cox—H. W. Petley 8 5

Men of War Outters—Distance one mile. Four boats must start for two prizes. Entrance fee \$100. First Prize, \$500. Second Prize, \$200. Service boats and conditions. Time allowance, 8 seconds per oar. Entries to be given to the judges one hour before the race.

Monmouth—Station No. 1—Red.

Bow—J. A. S. Alves 10 13

2—S. Bell 11 4

3—J. Forbes 10 7

Stroke—L. A. Musso 11 1

Cox—H. W. Petley 8 5

INTER-CLUB FOURS—Prize presented by the Officers of the Garrison. Distance one mile. Entrance fee \$100. To be rowed in boats of the same class.

Victoria Recreation Club—Station No. 1—Blue.

Bow—J. A. S. Alves 10 13

2—S. Bell 11 4

3—J. Forbes 10 7

Stroke—L. A. Musso 11 1

Cox—H. W. Petley 8 5

As soon as the boats could be discerned from the shore, it was seen that the Leak on the northern course was in the lead, Musso's boat being second, and the Leak third. For three-quarters of the distance, Lammer was piloting the Leak well to the front and Rapp's crew was rowing easily. Musso's combination in the Thistle appeared to possess greater staying power and by steady pulling was gaining on the leading boat with every stroke. The finish was an exciting one between Leak and Thistle, the latter managing to catch the judges' eye with just a bare yard to the front of Leak. Rapp's crew thus lost a hard contested race to Musso. Row finished third. Time: 6m. 57sec.

THE SCOLLING (Tub Sculling) Boats Distance half a mile. Entrance fee \$200. Cup presented by His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.

E. Calvar (not ab)—Station No. 1—Red.

A. H. Carroll (not ab) 10 0

A. S. Ellis (not ab) 10 0

Time: 3m. 30 sec.

This event proved another excellent race. There were six entrants, but H. S. Johnson did not start. Ellis led for the greater part of the half-mile. Carroll was giving him hard work to maintain the lead throughout the distance, and managed to overtake Ellis passing the Stand. Calvar, who had been in the third position, pulled well towards the end and steering a straight course secured the advantage and the win from Carroll and Ellis who rowed into the feet of yachts awaiting the start of the latter race.

INTERNATIONAL CHALLENGE CUP Open. For four-oars. Cup presented by the late J. S. Leprik, Esq., to be held by the winning crew for one year, but to remain the property of the Club. (Prizes presented by the Club Commandant). Distance one mile. Entrance fee \$100. To be rowed in boats of the same class.

Scotch—Station No. 1—Red.

Bow—J. M. Lopes 8 6

2—R. Galluzzi 10 8

3—F. L. da Rosa 10 8

Stroke—H. Rapp 10 0

Cox—R. F. Lammer 11 0

Row—Station No. 2—Blue.

Bow—J. A. S. Alves 10 13

2—S. Bell 11 4

3—J. Forbes 10 7

Stroke—L. A. Musso 11 1

Cox—H. W. Petley 8 5

English.

Station No. 2—Blue.

Bow—E. J. Gill 10 13

2—T. H. S. Brayfield 11 9

3—O. T. Elsworth 13 6

Stroke—S. Barker 10 13

Cox—G. A. Caldwell 8 6

An easy win for the Leak.

Time: 7m. 5 sec.

MEN OF WAR GIGS AND WALKERS—Distance one mile. Entrance fee \$100. Four boats must start for two prizes. First Prize, \$500. Second Prize, \$200. Service boats and conditions. Time allowance 8 seconds per oar. Entries to be given to the judges one hour before the race.

Monmouth whaler—Station No. 1—Red.

Four boats started in this race; one whaler and one gig. H.M.S. Monmouth's gig took the lead till about three lengths to finish. She stopped in error, owing to a gun being fired for the finish of a yacht race. The other boats were gradually picking up, and she was overtaken by the Monmouth's whaler, and managed to drift in second.

Time 8m. 27 4/5 sec.

LADIES' PRIZE—Presented by the Ladies of Hongkong. For four-oars. Distance one mile. Entrance fee \$100.

Row—Station No. 3—Yellow.

Bow—J. A. S. Alves 10 13

2—S. Bell 11 4

3—J. Forbes 10 7

Stroke—L. A. Musso 11 1

Cox—H. W. Petley 8 5

Thistle—Station No. 2—Blue.

Bow—F. L. da Rosa 10 8

2—A. A. Calvar 11 6

3—A. V. Barros 10 9

Stroke—A. E. S. Alves 11 4

Cox—O. M. S. Alves 10 10

Leak—Station No. 1—Red.

Bow—A. R. Watson 10 0

2—E. Galluzzi 12 8

Stroke—H. Rapp 10 0

Cox—R. F. Lammer 11 0

All started off well. Lammer's crew took a slight lead at the start and kept on increasing till Kelle Island, where Lammer's slide gave way and his boat could not go any further. The remaining two kept pretty close to each other, until a quarter of a mile to the finish when Musso's crew dashed ahead and won comfortably. Musso's and Alves' crew were pulling 34 strokes to the minute.

Time: 7m. 46sec.

MEN OF WAR OUTTERS—Distance one mile. Four boats must start for two prizes. Entrance fee \$100. First Prize, \$500. Second Prize, \$200. Service boats and conditions. Time allowance, 8 seconds per oar. Entries to be given to the judges one hour before the race.

Monmouth—Station No. 1—Red.

Bow—J. A. S. Alves 10 13

2—S. Bell 11 4

3—J. Forbes 10 7

Stroke—L. A. Musso 11 1

Cox—H. W. Petley 8 5

Royal Hongkong Yacht Club—Station No. 2—Red.

Bow—E. J. Gill 10 13

2—T. H. S. Brayfield 11 9

3—O. T. Elsworth 13 6

Stroke—S. Barker 10 13

Cox—G. A. Caldwell 8 6

At the start the old club took the lead, and pulled excellently throughout the race. The V.R.C. crew won by several lengths. The winning crew was pulling 38 strokes to the minute and the losing 35.

Time: 8m. 4 sec.

LUSITANO CUP—Presented by the Members of the Club Lusitano. For four-oars. Distance one mile. Entrance fee \$100.

Thistle—Station No. 2—Blue.

Bow—J. A. S. Alves 10 13

2—S. Bell 11 4

3—J. Forbes 10 7

Stroke—L. A. Musso 11 1

Cox—H. W. Petley 8 5

Row—Station No. 3—Yellow.

Bow—A. M. R. Pereira 9 10

2—R. Calvar 9 7

3—F. K. Tala 9 7

Stroke—A. V. Barros 10 9

Cox—F. X. Britto 7 0

Leak—Station No. 1—Red.

Bow—F. H. Hyndman 9 9

2—H. W. Sayer 9 9

3—R. Galluzzi 10 8

Stroke—H. Rapp 10 0

Cox—R. F. Lammer 11 0

This Thistle won this race easily, with half a dozen lengths to spare when reaching the winning post.

Time: 8m. 36 sec.

CHINESE CUP—Presented by the Chinese community of Hongkong. For four-oars. Distance one mile. Entrance fee \$100.

Thistle—Station No. 3—Yellow.

Bow—A. R. Ellis 8 3

2—O. A. C. Rodrigues 10 8

3—F. L. da Rosa 10 8

Stroke—A. H. Carroll 9 0

Cox—W. J. Carroll 9 0

Row—Station No. 2—Blue.

Bow—M. A. R. Souza 8 12

3—M. R. Pereira 10 12

Stroke—J. A. S. Alves 10 3

Cox—F. X. Britto 7 0

This race was rowed in the dark, and nothing much could be seen of it by the spectators at the reclamation ground. The Leak got a small lead at the start, but it did not take the Thistle long to catch her up and on passing Kelle Island the latter boat was length ahead of the others. At the winning post Thistle was ahead by ten lengths; the Leak came in second.

Time 8m. 8 1/2 sec.

The tide accounted considerably for the difference in the times.

YACHT AND MOTOR BOAT RACES.

Handicap Class.

COURSE—Lyvenon Beacon (Port) Out Rock (Port) Channel Rocks (Port) and in 8 Miles. First prize presented by the H. K. Constellation Yacht Club. Second prize presented.

Diana—Sir Henry May (scratch) 1

Evelyn—Mr. A. Davidson (1m. 20sec.) 2

One Design Class Boats.

COURSE—Channel Rocks (Port) Kowloon Rock (Port) May's East Buoy (Starboard) and in 6 Miles.

Royal Hongkong Yacht Club Class—

Panilo—Mr. Bird 1

Haley—Mr. A. B. Rouse 2

Dorothy—Mr. J. Forbes 1

Authors—Messrs Rodger and Wilchell 2

Hayward Hays Club—

Lisa—Mr. Neilson 1

Sirius—Mr. A. H. Milroy 2

The course for the Motor boat race was—Starting line for Yacht Races; Channel Rocks (Port) Kowloon Rock (Port) Channel Rocks (Starboard) Out Rock Buoy (Port) May's East Buoy (Starboard) and across the starting line from East to West 3200 yards. First prize presented by the Hongkong Constellation Yacht Club. Second prize presented.

Carthage—Mr. Taylor (9m. 20sec.) 1

Jeon—Dr. Pearson (7m. 48sec.) 2

Miss Potts presented the prizes to the successful competitors before the conclusion of the regatta. She was the recipient of a handsome bouquet. Three ringing cheers were given for Miss Potts.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The 25th half-yearly general meeting of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, held on the 26th ultimo, adopted the following statement of the distribution of profit for the half-year ending September 30th:—

Profit..... ¥1,441,668

Amount brought over..... 99,648

Total..... ¥1,541,316

To reserve..... ¥72,000

Dividends to directors and auditors..... 59,666

Dividend (10% per annum)..... 1,000,000

Carried forward..... 400,710

Total..... ¥1,541,316

The meeting adopted a proposal to present a monetary gift to Baron Hasegawa, a director of the company, who has resigned, in recognition of his services, the amount to be presented being left to the discretion of the board of directors. Proposals to discontinue the branch office of the company at Chemulpo and Vladivostok, and to accept the Government subsidy from January next in accordance with the new Ocean Navigation Subsidy Law, were also adopted. By the redemption of debentures to the amount of ¥300,000 at the end of last half-year, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha has now entirely redeemed its 6 per cent debentures issued to the amount of ¥2,500,000 in 1895.

In presenting the reports and accounts, Mr. Kondo, the president, remarked that a slight improvement had lately been shown in a section of the company's services which had remained depressed for several years, but it was not sufficient to offset losses elsewhere. Nevertheless, the readjustment of the business management and economy in expenditure had shown its effects. This, combined with the cheaper price of coal, had enabled the company to reap better fruit than for the preceding period. It was singular that the abundant harvest of coal had impeded improvement of trade. This was as though plants and flowers were to wither on the opening of spring. The bad time for the shipping trade would continue, and great difficulties still lay in the path of the company's business.—*Japan Chronicle.*

ICE HOUSE STREET.

TO BE WOOD PAVED.

The members of the Public Works Committee, having on the 12th inst., discussed the relative merits and prices of other road materials and the somewhat heavy expense entailed by wood paving, finally unanimously agreed that this street should be paved with this material as an experiment in such paving, adding that it would be possible when re-constructing to then improve this street by abolition of the gutters and in other ways.

COTTON-SPINNING IN JAPAN.

A SATISFACTORY HALF-YEAR.

Referring to the prospects of the working of the spinning companies, the president of the second half this year, the *Osaka Asahi* notes that the result of the working of the companies generally has proved more satisfactory than for the first half, and all the companies are expected to be able to pay a better dividend. Doubt was at one time expressed as to a like success in the case of those companies which principally produce finer yarns of 20's and above, but even these have now proved to have had a more successful season than in the first half of the year. In July and August last, when the market for raw cotton began to rise, apprehension was felt regarding the position of the companies, owing to the small stocks of raw cotton held. Even apart from the Fukushima Spinning Company, which claims to hold sufficient stock to last until March or April, the Kanagawachi, Settsu, Osaka, and Mie Spinning Companies are all holding heavier stock than had been expected, and they have experienced less difficulty in consequence of the higher prices of raw cotton, while on the other hand the yarn market has improved. This has placed the companies in a position to realise a larger profit than anticipated, and it is now expected that all the spinning companies will be able to distribute a dividend equal to or larger than that for the preceding half-year. There is little doubt that the Kanagawachi will distribute a dividend at the rate of 14 per cent per annum, the Fukushima, Osaka, Nippon, and Mie each at 12 per cent, the Settsu at 20 per cent, and the Tokyo at 50 per cent, while the Nishina (Japan-China), new company, is expected to be able to distribute 40 per cent. The *Fuji* is believed to be in a position to pay 14 per cent, the Amagasaki 30 per cent, and the Godo rate of 30 per cent, though some doubts have been expressed as to whether the latter mentioned companies will show much success in their working. It is nevertheless certain that at the worst the dividends distributed will be equal to those for the preceding period. The question now occupying the attention of the cotton-spinners is the prospects of the working for the next period, and the companies are much concerned in the matter.—*Japan Chronicle.*

NOTES BY THE WAY.

THE SANITARY BOARD.

That much abused institution known as the Sanitary Board has again revived the interesting (sic) question of cemeteries. That uncommon topic seems to have a particular charm for the City Fathers and interest in it scarcely seems to lag. At the last meeting of the Board the question of how much space a monument must occupy for the benefit of those dead and departed again cropped up and the members tackled the subject with fresh vigour. That so much valuable time should be wasted with a view to the extension of racial prejudice to the graveyard seems incredible in this

Hongkong Newspaper Sued.

ACTION FOR LIBEL AGAINST THE "SHEUNG PO."

SERIOUS ALLEGATIONS BY THE BASIL MISSION.

18th inst.
Before the Acting Chief Justice and a special jury, in the Supreme Court this morning, the President in Hongkong of the Basil Evangelical Missionary Society brought an action for libel against the Hongkong "Sheung Po" Company Limited, of 13, Cross Street, Central, and the printer, and publisher of the "Sheung Po." The action arose out of a publication of an article in the "Sheung Po" of 14th December last which alleged that the plaintiff caused an illegal operation to be performed upon a pregnant woman, for which plaintiffs claimed damages in the sum of \$10,000.

Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. F. B. Deacon (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon) appeared for the plaintiff, and Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., instructed by Mr. Otto Kong Sigg, was for the defendants.

The following were the jury:—Messrs. M. S. Northcote (foreman), A. Babington, W. A. Dowley, A. Bryer, A. J. David, H. P. White and A. G. Gordon.

Mr. Slade, in opening the case, stated that the Basil Evangelical Missionary Society carried on missionary work among the Hakka. They had seventeen stations in all, among which was one at Ho Yuen, in the Kwangtung province, where they were last year about to build a hospital. At the time of the publication of the article, the hospital was in process of being built. Everything went on smoothly, and the hospital was promised large subscriptions and met the wishes of the neighbors. This happy state of affairs was put to a rude stop by the appearance of the article in question.

The defence challenged their translation but was refused. The article was in Chinese, and the words were concerned and he would prove that their translation was correct. The defendants stated in their pleadings that there was no intention of *malice fide* about the article but that they merely published the article as an item of news. The story from which the words used in the article were taken was the story of the most execrated of the Emperors who ever sat on the throne of China. The article imputed an abominable crime and it would be understood that the Emperor was a man of low character.

The president of the Society was naturally very incensed when he saw the article. He feared that the massacre of Linchow would be renewed. It was the same article in its nature as those which were published over and over again with a view to inciting the hatred of the people and driving the masses to revolution. At the time that the operation was performed, the woman's husband was present, as well as the doctor's wife and some Chinese assistants. The usual antiseptic had been administered but it was found impossible to save the woman's life and shortly afterwards, she died of violent purpura fever. The husband, who was blind, was allowed to pass his hand over the dead body of his wife in order to convince him that his wife did not die under the knife and in order to guard against the common saying prevalent in China that foreign medical men were in the habit of operating upon women with knives for the purpose of making unlawful use of the patient's organs. Subsequently, the defendants tried to minimize the mischief caused by the article in question by the publication of a laudatory article, which, however, although it was an act creditable to themselves, proved futile in removing the effect of the article. In conclusion, Counsel told the jury that it was for them to decide what punishment should be imposed on the defendants.

The defendants in their pleadings sought to justify the publication of the article and denied that the words contained the meaning or significance alleged by the plaintiff.

Witnesses were then called and after the fifth adjournment, the foreman asked what the amount was of the annual subscriptions for the hospital from Chinese at the time of the publication of the article and in the current year.

Mr. Slade replied that with regard to the particular hospital, there was a dead loss of \$4,000.

The cross-examination of the witness was then continued.

The foreman (T. Dr. Fortsch)—As a consequence of the publication of the article, was there any loss or indications of a riot?

Sir Henry—It is not suggested.

Mr. Slade (To witness)—Was there a crowd outside the hospital?—No.

The foreman—Did any of your subscribers definitely refuse to pay their subscriptions on account of the article?—Yes.

Were these refusals in writing or verbal?—It is not usual for them to be in writing.

The case was adjourned.

PLAINTIFFS AWARDED \$2,000.

18th inst.
Before the Acting Chief Justice in the Supreme Court this morning, the case was resumed in which the President in Hongkong of the Basil Evangelical Missionary Society yesterday commenced an action in which they sought to recover from the Hongkong "Sheung Po" Company Limited, and Hing Wa, editor, printer and publisher of the "Sheung Po," the sum of \$10,000 as damages for an alleged libel contained in a certain article appearing in the "Sheung Po" in December last.

Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. F. B. Deacon (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon) appeared for the plaintiff, and Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., instructed by Mr. Otto Kong Sigg, was for the defendants.

The following were the jury:—Messrs. M. S. Northcote (foreman), A. Babington, W. A. Dowley, A. Bryer, A. J. David, H. P. White and A. G. Gordon.

Sir Henry submitted that the plaintiff had disclosed no case. In asking his Lordship to leave the case to the jury, Counsel submitted that under the powers of Sections 174 and 175 of the Code of Civil Procedure, his Lordship should dismiss the case there and then. It was his Lordship's duty to withdraw the case and dismiss the action, because the plaintiff, the President in Hongkong of the Basil Evangelical Missionary Society, had not proved that any libel had been published of an abominable crime.

Mr. Slade—The plaintiff is *he*, not *him*. Sir Henry—The plaintiff is a person. No libel has been proved against a corporation.

Proceeding with his argument, Sir Henry stated that the libel if proved was against two persons—Dr. Fortsch and Mr. Souter. The charge was that they caused an illegal operation to be performed upon a pregnant woman, for which plaintiffs claimed damages in the sum of \$10,000. The libel did not refer to the plaintiff, therefore, there was no personal right of action in *him* or *it*. There was no right of action in the corporation as a corporation in respect of its property. Sir Henry proceeded to cite authorities in support of his contention and referred to a case where it had been held that a corporation could not sue.

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murder and said that case was identical to the present action, as the plaintiff was a corporation. Counsel stated that the term "it" had no personality; it was merely an abstraction. Dealing with another of his points, Counsel stated that even supposing that the plaintiff could bring an action in relation to the property, the hospital at Ho Yuen was not the property of the President in Hongkong.

His Lordship—It is the property of the Corporation. Sir Henry—It is not the property of the Corporation. It is the property of the Mission in Basel. Mr. Souter stated in his evidence that advances were made by the people at Ho Yuen and that they accounted for operations performed upon patients.

His Lordship—Suppose the Mission was a branch of the Basel Mission, would it be entitled to sue in respect of its property?

Sir Henry—I was going to submit certainly not. The plaintiff is not entitled to sue. He is debarred from bringing the action because the plaintiff had accepted an apology as far as he was concerned from the defendants under an agreement that he was going to be published by the defendant, which had been duly performed. The evidence was that Mr. Bummell had a conversation with the editor, who explained how the article came to be published and published an apology.

Mr. Slade stated that that was not so. His Lordship said that that fact (the insertion of the apology) could only mitigate the offence but it would not debar the plaintiff from bringing the action. He would direct the jury on the question of damages.

Sir Henry said he would not press the point. Continuing, Counsel stated that the plaintiff had admitted in his evidence that the words complained of did not refer to him. On the face of it, he did not refer to a particular person and that particular person was Mr. Bummell. Assuming that the Corporation could sue, the words did not refer to the Corporation.

At this point, His Lordship referred to a certain statement which was on record that "all lawyers were thieves."

Sir Henry—It is a very crude illustration but it is very apt (Laughter).

Counsel then proceeded to prove that if a person wrote that all lawyers were thieves, he could not be sued by a particular lawyer for libel unless it could be proved that the words referred to that particular lawyer. He submitted that the President in Hongkong of the Basil Mission was merely a corporate body for the purpose of holding property for the Basel Mission at Switzerland. The President in Hongkong was President only in Hongkong and not in China. The President in Hongkong could not bring an action for libel in Africa, and he could not bring an action in Africa, and therefore he was not entitled to bring an action for the purpose of protecting the Society's worldly interests. He submitted that the power and authority of the President in Hongkong were limited to Hongkong. Assuming that the plaintiff could bring an action, he was not entitled to bring the present action, because the charge was of a nature which could not be committed by a corporation. There was nothing in the Ordinance which authorised the Basel Mission at Ho Yuen to trade or do business of any kind. It was merely authorised to hold property. It was not authorised to hold land outside Hongkong.

Mr. Slade in reply dealt with the status of the plaintiff as a corporate body. He said that the paper was a Hongkong paper and at the time the injury was done in Hongkong, it covered a wider area. The action could not be brought by any other body except the plaintiff.

His Lordship—Why not the doctors? Mr. Slade—Let me explain. Because the doctors, who have devoted their life's work to the Mission, do not care to bring forward a claim for compensation for personal injury incurred on their behalf. The injury was inflicted on the Mission, whose servants they are.

His Lordship at this point announced that he did not propose to withdraw the case and assuming that the plaintiff's right of action was not held good, it would involve another trial, but in view of the system of juries obtaining in the Colony, it was not desirable to have a second trial and he proposed to leave the case to the jury with a reservation.

Counsel having concurred, Mr. Slade briefly addressed the jury and after Sir Henry had made his address on behalf of the defendants, the jury awarded the plaintiffs general damages in the sum of \$2,000. His Lordship reserved his decision on the point of law raised by the defence as to whether the plaintiff possessed the right of action.

PLEASURES TRIPS TO MACAO.

NEW STEAMER PLACED ON THE RUN.

Through the enterprise of the Sze Yip Steamship Company, another steamer, the *On Lee*, has been added to the weekly service on Sundays to Macao. The *On Lee* is a new boat, having been launched about three weeks ago, and through the courtesy of the Company, representatives of the local Press were last Sunday given an opportunity of seeing what an excellent excursion trip can be made on board the *On Lee* for the extremely moderate fare of \$1.30 each way. The vessel is under the command of a genial skipper in the person of Capt. Cameron, whose delightful breeziness should enhance the advantages of travelling by the *On Lee*.

The *On Lee*, which was built at Kowloon Docks, is a vessel with a length of 185 feet, has a 36 feet beam and her draught is 8 feet 6 inches. She is capable of accommodating 100 passengers and, considering her size, has a goodly number of well-appointed bunks. The *On Lee* plies between Hongkong and Kowloon on week days, leaving on Sunday, the runs to Macao and back, leaving the Plover wharf at 9 a.m. and Macao at 5 p.m., and does the trip to Macao in the extremely good time of 14 hours. The *On Lee* is well worth the patronage of excursionists to the Portuguese settlement.

PHAK TRAMWAY

EXTENSION SCHEME REVISED.

At a meeting of the Public Works Committee, held on the 2nd inst., the Chairman (Hon. Director of Public Works) stated that the Public Works Committee on the point whether the extension of the Peak Tramway to Queen's Road on the left side of Garden Road is a desirable improvement to the public interest. The Members were unanimously in favour of the extension but, after some considerable discussion, they decided that the question of the extension was a difficult matter to come to an opinion about with no plan before them. They stated that the least objectionable form of extension, if there were any better means of carrying the tramline, should be adopted, but that in regard to the form the line should take from the peak to the Queen's Road, further details should be supplied before the Public Works Committee be asked to express an opinion as to the desirability, or feasibility, of the system or another.

They did not, however, think that the vicinity to the Cathedral should prevent the extension of the line by the tramway or any other form of transport that might be decided upon.

DR. J. C. THOMSON'S RETIREMENT.

PRESENTATION BY HONGKONG COLLEGE OF MEDICINE.

A full meeting of the Senate of the Hongkong College of Medicine was held at the Council Chamber on the afternoon of the 10th inst., on the occasion of the presentation of a silver plate to Dr. J. C. Thomson, the secretary, on his retirement, after twenty-one years' service, to the college. Sir Henry May, the rector of the college, was also present, and there was a large attendance of licentiates and students of the college.

Dr. Francis W. Clark, Dean, made the presentation on behalf of the Senate, licentiates and students. He said—Gentlemen, we meet this evening to do honour to one who has served our College in various capacities and through many vicissitudes for by less a period than twenty-one years. In January, 1879, Dr. John Christopher Thomson took up the appointment of Medical Superintendent of the Alice Memorial Hospital, and at once threw himself with his accustomed ardour into the work of organization and teaching in the College of Medicine which had been founded but two years previously. His first appointment was as Lecturer on Pathology, and with the clinical material at his disposal in the Hospital he taught those earliest students, whose names you will find recorded on our rolls, the principles and practice of our craft. From 1894 until 1900 he lectured on the Materia Medica and Therapeutics, and for the past nine years has specialised in the diseases of tropical climates, while of late he has also taught clinical medicine in the wards of the Tugue Wah Hospital. In 1891 Dr. Thomson succeeded Dr. Ho Kai as Secretary, and has held that office until the present time, and that the College is now an unquestioned success you may justly attribute, in no small measure, to his indomitable perseverance, his plain energy, and his good nature, and for the fact that he has been able to realize the difficulties which have been encountered and overcome, but looking back, as I can do, over rather more than two-thirds of the period of Dr. Thomson's willing service, I can see not a few of the shadows by the roadside—times when some of us were disheartened and felt that our labour was in vain, and when nothing but his cheery optimism has carried us onward to success. To the students Dr. Thomson has been a father, a guide, an encouraging guide, and I am convinced that there is not one among them who does not feel acutely the loss he is sustaining on the departure of their devoted teacher. To the licentiates he has been indeed a guide, philosopher and friend—to him they have been able to take their troubles with a certain confidence that sympathy and ready help would always be forthcoming; their successes have been his successes and their welfare as his own. And to the members of the Senate he has been a friend, a true friend, with the candour born of a friendship of a vital interest in our collegiate welfare. Truly may we say that

His life was gentle, and the elements So mixed in him that nature might stand up And say to all the world "This was a man." Dr. Thomson, on behalf of the members of the Senate, of the licentiates of our College, and of our students here assembled, it is my privilege to ask you to accept this piece of plate in token of appreciation of the valuable services you have rendered to our College, and at the same time to express to you the warmest and most heartfelt wishes of every one of us that you may long be spared to your family and friends in the dear Home-land. (Applause.)

The plate was a beautiful piece of massive silver for a tea tray, and was of English design and make.

The following inscription was engraved on it: "Presented to John Christopher Thomson; M.A., M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M., and H., by members of the Senate, the licentiates and the students of the Hongkong College of Medicine in token of their esteem and in recognition of the very valuable services rendered by him to the College during the past twenty-one years, December 1900."

Dr. Thomson made a long speech in reply concluding by wishing prosperity in every sense of the word, to each individually, and to all in their collective capacity, as members of the Hongkong College of Medicine. He thanked them for the beautiful and valuable gift which they bore him and the Dean for his eloquent expression of it in the words he had addressed him.

THE LOSS OF THE "DAINI KISAKATA-MARU."

NUMBER OF THE LOST.

An official telegram from the Dairen Civil Administrative Office to the Yamaguchi prefectural Government gives the number of the crew of the *Daini Kisakata-maru* as 32 and that of the passengers as 24.

The bodies of people who went down with the steamer still continue to be washed up on the shores of Toyohashi and Shimizu, on the Sagami Bay. Three of the bodies drifting to shore at Katsunohama, says Shimizu, were dispatched to the *Asahi*, attracted special attention on account of their well-dressed appearance. One of them was corpulent and proved to be the remains of Captain Mochi, the master of the steamer. He was identified by articles found on the body, which consisted of a crystal seal, a gold watch with a photograph, and some money. Another proved to be the body of Mr. Kajimura Yoshimichi, of the Hallway, Yokohama, Fushimi-ku, Osaka. On the body of a young girl was found. The other remains were unidentified. Up to the morning of the 2nd instant 37 bodies were washed up on shore. Among them was that of a young girl of 14 years, an adopted daughter of Washio Isaburo, an iron worker of Dairen. Seven bodies have been identified as those of passengers and eight of the crew. From accessory circumstances, the bodies were dispatched, some time seems to have elapsed before the steamer went down in after stranding. The young girl whose body was washed up carried a saving bank pass-book, a watch, and other valuable articles, as well as documents tied to her body, all being wrapped in a handkerchief. A passenger, Oyane Sotchi, by name, whose body also came ashore, had on his person a name-card which showed that he was a passenger, not a member of the crew, —*Japan Chronicle*.

SPECIAL JURORS EXEMPTED.

AT THE SUPREME COURT THIS MORNING.

18th inst.
At the Supreme Court this morning, when a certain Chinese gentleman's name was called in connection with an action for libel, Counsel for the plaintiff informed the Court that the particular juror was intimately connected with one of the partners in the defendant company and for that reason was not entitled to sit in that case.

Sir Henry (for the defendant)—I had never heard of it before.

His Lordship said it would be better if after what had been said the juror should not serve. Another gentleman who was called asked to be excused owing to pressure of business.

His Lordship—Are you the only one in your office?—At present.

His Lordship—You are excused.

CONSECRATION OF THE BISHOP HOARE MEMORIAL CHAPEL.

18th inst.

In brilliant sunshine, and with the help and sympathy of many friends this Chapel was consecrated on Saturday last, December 4. It will be remembered that it was proposed to build a Chapel for the use of the students of the C.M.S. Bishop Hoare, its founder and first principal. The hope has now been realized through the kind help of many friends in England and in China, and the English Bishop Molony, performed the opening ceremony. The foundation stone was laid by the Bishop in torrents of rain on June 14 last, and the work is not yet fully completed, owing to many difficulties which have arisen, chiefly in consequence of the lamented death of the architect, Mr. B. H. Tarrant. However, the building was sufficiently advanced to allow of the opportunity being taken of the Diocesan Synod meeting in Ningpo to dedicate the Chapel. At 2.30 p.m. the College staff met Bishop Molony, supported by the Venerable the Archdeacon A. E. Moale and more than thirty clergy of his diocese, English and Chinese, at the door of the Chapel to receive the Bishop. The Bishop then opened the door and the procession entered the Chapel, which was soon filled to its utmost capacity with visitors and students. The consecration service, which was wholly in Chinese, consisted of the reading of Psalm XXIV and prayer by the Bishop. After prayer the hymn, "Christ is in our corner stone" was sung; and then the Bishop, conducted by the principal, and accompanied by the choir, proceeded to the Lectern. Reading Desk, the Bishop, in each place, offering appropriate prayer in each place. The congregation then knelt, and the Bishop offered a prayer, in which the whole building was consecrated for uses of Divine Service. Archdeacon Moale and the Rev. Y. K. Wong next delivered addresses, the Archdeacon in English and Chinese and Mr. Wong in Chinese, chiefly in memory of the late Bishop and impressing the example of his life and his writings. They glorified God in the hymn, "Who are there in bright array" and all kneeling, the Bishop commemorated the honoured and beloved founder in the familiar and comprehensive words of the Communion Service. The Bishop then gave the blessing and the clergy and congregation left the Chapel, confident that the prayer which had been offered would receive an answer, and that from those who worship daily in this House of God there will never be wanting a succession of men who receive the divine call to "be ye taken as the texts of the Gospel." Tea and refreshments were partaken of after the ceremony, and a photograph was taken.

The style of the building is a free treatment of late Gothic, and the fabric is of dressed Ningpo stone with brick and rough cast. The small bell tower is a small chancel and a nave capable of seating 100 students, with stalls for twelve masters. The lighting is lighted by electricity. There is a large hall in the vestry in memory of Mr. B. H. Tarrant, and there are braises in Chinese and English in memory of Bishop Hoare. The English inscription on the latter reads as follows:—This Chapel is erected to the glory of God and in grateful memory of

JOSEPH CHARLES HOARE, D.D. Son of the Canon Edward Hoare, of Tunbridge Wells, England. Educated at Tunbridge School and Trinity College, Cambridge. Called to missionary service, by the words of a master, he joined the Hongkong and Shanghai Mission of the Church Missionary Society in 1876 and became the founder and first principal of this College. Appointed Bishop of Victoria, Hongkong, in 1898. He with four Chinese student evangelists gave up his life in the waters of Hongkong harbour on the 18th of September 1900.

"A faithful man; able to teach others" a Tim 2.3.

"We are in our hearts to die together" a Cor. 7.3.

As the work is not fully completed and accounts have not been settled, it is not possible to say that the Chapel is opened free of debt, but it is believed that very nearly the necessary amount has been received. There remain, however, several articles of furniture to be provided—such as a bell, communion vessels, an American organ, simple panelling for the wall of the East end, and vestry furniture, besides the necessary expenses connected with the consecration, the making of paths and turfing etc., so that the fund remains open for a time.—*N.C.D. News*.

BULLION.

Messrs. Samuel Montagu & Co.'s Circular, dated London, November 18, contains the following:—

Gold.—The price of bar gold was unchanged at 77s 9d p. oz. With the exception of a considerable amount reserved for the arrivals—about £60,000—were sold to the Bank of England.

The effect desired by the Bank, when it raised the official rate to 5 per cent, has at length been produced, and during the week the index reached the substantial total of 2,615,000.

The gold, satisfactory as it is, does not represent the total owing to the market; for, in addition, New York has been shipping considerable sums of gold direct to South America.

The small amount of bills offered by the India Council will doubtless lead to the shipment of sovereigns to India; in fact, it is more than likely that some will go this week.

Silver.—On the whole, notwithstanding a drop of 3d. on the 15th since partially recovered, the market has been steady in character. China continues to sell at a low price, in price, but will not allow the opportunity to pass of re-purchasing at a fair profit. This condition of affairs is likely to continue until the Chinese New Year, about which time India will be in possession of the proceeds of an unusually bountiful harvest, a certain proportion of which will probably be invested in silver.

Last week's steadiness was assisted by "Constitutional" purchases of six weeks, the amount of silver held by the Imperial Bank of Germany, has declined £1,152,110.

India reports a daily output of 100 bars, and it is considered probable that the upcountry demand is on the increase.

The large shipment of about £480,000 last week, exercises little direct influence, being practically a transfer from the London Stock to that of Bombay, where the silver will be sold close touch with the Eastern market.

Lately China has been buying in Bombay, and such purchases have a natural tendency to approximate the price in India, to the parity of London's quotation.

A shipment of £150,000 has been made from San Francisco to the Far East.

REAR-ADMIRAL GRACEY.

LANDING THIS MORNING.

Shortly after 10.30 last Tuesday morning a guard of honour composed of one company of the Buffs, was drawn up at Blake Pier to receive the American Admiral on landing. A little before 11 a.m. the U.S. flag ship's pinnace left the West Virginia and made for Blake Pier. On landing, a salute was fired at the Kowloon Signal Station. The Admiral was received at the pier by Capt. P. W. M. Taylor, A.D.C. to the Governor, and the American Consul. After inspecting the guard, the Admiral and party proceeded in chairs to Government House.

THE OPIUM QUESTION.

Full reports of the Straits Settlement Dinner, which was held on November 16, show that the opium question was the subject of the more important speeches. Sir Frank Swettenham, who presided, said that there was a strong opinion that the revenue of British Malaya had been checked, as trade and revenue were shrinking, the opium firm had been abolished and a new and costly system had been introduced, which would yield less and was intended ultimately to suppress the consumption of opium. The Chairman proceeded:—

I should have preferred to omit all reference to the opium question, but that course is impossible, for the opium firms contributed half the revenue, and who knows what the result would be if the opium revenue were abolished? The opium revenue was a practical certainty, naturally ask what will be the place of the opium revenue when the consumption of the drug has been absolutely abolished.

THE POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT.

The tacit challenge to reassure colonists given by the Chairman was accepted by Colonel Seely, who said:—

Well, then, apart from a certain anxiety as to the loss in trade itself, your distinguished Chairman touched upon a loss in revenue. I have heard a rumour that there has been a similar loss in revenue even in this country, and that we have had to take measures to make up the deficit. The loss in the revenue of our Eastern dependencies has been caused, as in every country of the world without exception, by a momentary slackening of trade. It has also, no doubt, been caused by the Opium policy to which you referred, Sir Frank. . . . There is no desire on the part of His Majesty's Government, or anyone in this country in a responsible position, to impose upon people in our Eastern dependencies a morality that will only cost them their own consciences. That is a thing of the past. There is no such desire. We only wish to see facts as they are, and to administer countries, if we can, for the good of the inhabitants. Our closest ally is Japan. We are brought into close touch with Japan. We hear all that Japan does. Well, now, we know the case of Japan that they regard the abuse of the opium habit as so serious that they impose, penalties upon any Japanese not only who uses the drug, but who is found in possession of the drug. They are a people of great capacity, probably the greatest in the East; they are a people of great self-restraint, they are a people very successful in hard arbitration of war, and one cannot suppose that all Japan's wise-men without exception would take this course unless there were something in the view.

This was what impressed His Majesty's Government, and when he found that the statesmen of China were of the same mind and wished to check an abuse, not only His Majesty's Government but, I would beg you to observe, Sir Frank, men of all parties—Mr. Alfred Lyttelton, Mr. Balfour, the Irish party, Sir Thomas, the Labour-men of all shades of opinion said, "Well, at least we cannot lag behind; we must not check what wise men in the East believe to be a good move; all we can do is to try and direct it into wise channels." And I stand here to say that we know that in trying to check the abuse of a habit which undoubtedly has caused racial degeneration in some quarters of the globe, not only that we shall have with us, but we have got already with us all the best thought of the men on the spot who wish to see by gradual means and with the least possible disturbance the elimination of what may be a gross abuse. I put it no higher than that. I say that we cannot cure an evil all in a moment. We do not for a moment suggest that you should impose a self-denying ordinance which should induce Mr. Frank Swettenham and me to retire to some lonely moor to drink water and eat vegetables, but I do say that we shall carry with us the opinion of everyone here in trying on wise lines to prevent the expansion of the abuse of a habit which may cause grave injury to the inhabitants of a country over which the King holds sway.

FIRE AT SHANGHAI.

GODOWN COMPLETELY DESTROYED.

At about one o'clock yesterday morning, reports the *N. C. D. News* of 11th inst., a fire broke out in an unoccupied house at Pootung. The flames had obtained a strong hold when the native brigade arrived, but the firemen, with the assistance of a number of River Police and native constables, quickly got to work, and before long the outbreak was subdued. The building was entirely razed.

After the firemen had left the scene, flames were seen at about four o'clock shooting through the roof of Messrs. Mackenzie & Co.'s godown which is situated about a hundred yards from the building which had been on fire. Mr. Kenneth Campbell, the engineer in charge of the godown, made the discovery, and gave the alarm. The flames turned out again, but their appliances were altogether inadequate, and the services of the Customs and Municipal fire forces were sought. The flames arrived at the wharf at about five o'clock within a few minutes of each other, and long lines of hose were run out. As soon as steam was up water was pumped on to the burning mass of raw cotton which was stored in the godown, at the rate of 1,500 gallons per minute. Notwithstanding this heavy volume of water, the flames continued to shoot upwards. Soon the roof fell in with a thud, and the flames rose higher, and myriads of sparks fell into the air. The firemen continued to pour water over the high walls and through the broken windows, but so appreciable diminution of the blaze was apparent. At about six o'clock the wall on the northern side fell outwards with a resounding crash, and the blazes were filled with flames. Fortunately, no one was within the danger zone when the roof fell. Shortly afterwards another section of the roof crumbled and was falling for a few seconds, fall out with a loud crash. The warning given was noticed, for a foreigner and a native member of the fire brigade had raced to safety in the nick of time. Portions of the wall continued to fall at intervals, and late yesterday afternoon not one was intact. A section on the northern side was bulging dangerously, and as it looked as if it were going to fall at any moment, men were told off to prevent any one from getting too close to it. The front wall was cracked in an alarming manner, and smoke was pouring through the crevices. The afternoon was well advanced before the flames were in part subdued, and

REAR-ADMIRAL GRACEY.

LANDING THIS MORNING.

Shortly after 10.30 last Tuesday morning a guard of honour composed of one company of the Buffs, was drawn up at Blake Pier to receive the American Admiral on landing. A little before 11 a.m. the U.S. flag ship's pinnace left the West Virginia and made for Blake Pier. On landing, a salute was fired at the Kowloon Signal Station. The Admiral was received at the pier by Capt. P. W. M. Taylor, A.D.C. to the Governor, and the American Consul. After inspecting the guard, the Admiral and party proceeded in chairs to Government House.

N. D. L. "Prinz Ludwig."

FIRE ABOARD THE GERMAN MAIL.

CARGO OF SILK SMOULDERING.

At an early hour this morning the German mail steamer *Prinz Ludwig* arrived in port with fire on board. The N. D. L. steamer was on the homeward voyage and her last port of departure was Shanghai. The voyage down from the northern port was wholly uneventful. The *Prinz Ludwig* was signalled from Wai-kei at 6.30 a.m. and all was apparently well when the lighthouse was passed, but as soon as she swung round "Blackhead" Point smoke was discovered issuing through the ventilator. It was then that the first indication was given of the fire being smouldering in the ship's hold. While the vessel was steaming against the wind, it is surmised that the breeze kept down the smoke, but no sooner did she round the Point than there was unmistakable evidence that some portion of the cargo had by some means or other become ignited. The discovery was made about 7.30 a.m. and without any loss of time the flag signal "NM"—"I am on fire"—was run up and with it the *Prinz Ludwig* steamed up to the German mail buoy.

THE FIRE LOCATED.

The energetic officers and crew of the mail boat at once proceeded to locate the seat of the fire, which was traced to the No. 3 hold in which is stowed cargo to the extent of some fourteen hundred tons, three hundred tons of that quantity being raw silk; the rest of the cargo is made up of some sort of seed in bags, old iron and miscellaneous merchandise. This hatch extends right underneath the saloon, hence the difficulty experienced by the fire brigade and the naval contingent who are assisting in extinguishing the fire.

FIREFIGHT TO THE RESCUE.

As soon as the water police became apprised of the outbreak on board the German mail, the Central Station was at once communicated with. The information was passed on to the Fire Brigade Station. Without loss of time the men turned out under Deputy Superintendent P. J. Wodehouse and hastened to board the *Prinz Ludwig* on board the Colonial Government fireboat, which drew alongside the mailer about 8 a.m. Almost simultaneously the Admiralty's *Cherub* steamed to the assistance of the *Prinz Ludwig*. She too, had her contingent of firemen from the Naval Yard.

LOYD'S SURVEYOR SUMMONED.

As might have been expected Capt. Douglas, surveyor for the German concern for what is the equivalent of Lloyd's in England, was summoned by the local agents of the N. D. L. He, on behalf of the German firm, proceeded on board and conducted investigations also on behalf of the underwriters. Mr. John Lambert, Lloyd's surveyor in Hongkong, was also one of the first arrivals on board the *Prinz Ludwig*, and it is reasonable to conclude that Mr. Lambert will also have to draw up a report for submission to the ship's agents.

FIREFIGHTS AT WORK.

The Colonial Government fireboat took up a position at the fore and of the bridge on the starboard side. With businesslike promptitude the brigade and the naval contingent started their powerful pumps against the hatchway, and opened and about twenty streams were soon at play pouring down great volumes of water into the smouldering hold. At the same time our representatives visit to the ship, there were probably no less than twenty hoses at play—about a dozen three-inch and 7 or 8 1/2-inch. Owing to the nature of the cargo the fire is a smouldering one giving out but few flames but a steady volume of smoke. Since the exact position where the fire originated among the hundreds of bales of silk could not be discovered, the firemen decided to flood the hold and in this way they experienced difficulty also. When a few hundred tons of water had been pumped into the hold, it was seen that the ship began to take a dangerous list to starboard, and the original plan of absolutely flooding the hold had to be temporarily stopped. Then the pumps had to be set into operation to discharge the water and so the ship righted again.

FIREMEN'S DIFFICULTIES.

The firemen's difficulties were further augmented by dense volumes of smoke which were ejected at times, positively blinding for a moment or two the men whose task at subduing the fire appeared to be a Herculean one. The members of the local Police Force as well as the naval contingent were called upon to assist in the work. A great deal of work was done without delay. Those who have watched operations on board are unanimous in their opinion that the local brigade to a man were rendering very efficient service and were doing everything that it was possible for them to do. As illustrating the admirable equipment on board the German mail steamer, it may be mentioned that fire helmets were sent out to members of the ship's crew. With these attached to their helmets they descended into the lower hold carrying with them two streams of six-inch hose which they played on the burning cargo of valuable silk. Apparently the fire had eaten its way into the furthest bay beyond reach of the pouring volume of water, for in spite of the firemen's unremitting efforts there appeared to be no sensible diminution in the density of the smoke by the fifth hour.

A PRELIMINARY REPORT.

From a preliminary report it was gathered that no serious damage is anticipated as a result of the fire up to the time of the forenoon observations, but as the fire has been seen to be modified in the light of later information derived on board this afternoon.

IN YAMUAT BAY.

As stated above the *Prinz Ludwig* took up anchorage in the Company's bay and remained moored to it throughout the forenoon. About two o'clock, however, it was decided to take the steamer round to Yamuat Bay whither she proceeded under her own steam. She waited safely on a bank in the bay—a commendable precaution dictated by a desire to provide for any emergency.

NOT UNDER CONTROL.

Up to 3.30 p.m. the *Prinz Ludwig* still flew the flag "NM" indicating that she was on fire. But that signal was lowered at 3.30 p.m. when two black balls were hoisted. The latter signal denoted that the vessel was not under control.

REPORTED LEAKING.

As we go to press a report reaches us that the steamer is making very little water, and that the report may prove incorrect and the damage even though considerable as far as the hull is concerned may prove to be of no moment at all.

THE DAMAGE.

Owing to the valuable nature of the smouldering cargo—raw silk from Japan and Shanghai—it is just possible that the underwriters may have to meet a large bill from damage to the cargo.

as to the approximate amount of damage, but as they are purely guess work we do not care to hazard their opinion until complete surveys fix the exact extent of the damage.

THE PASSENGERS.

On board appeared to be quite at ease watching operations in extinguishing the fire. Many were seen leaning over the rails while the firemen were combating the tenacious outbreak. The steamer will probably be dry-docked for survey for classification.

ONE MILLION DOLLARS DAMAGE.

30% GENERAL AVERAGE DEPOSIT.

The fire, which broke out on board the German mail steamer *Prinz Ludwig*, as she entered the harbour yesterday morning, reported in detail in our last evening's issue, was extinguished after we had gone to press yesterday. After the fire brigade left the ship, the *Prinz Ludwig* remained for the night at anchor in Yamuat Bay, and about eight o'clock this morning steamed up to the wharf in front of the Hongkong and Kowloon wharf and Godow's Co.'s godown at Kowloon. As soon as the mail steamer was made fast to the wharf, she began to discharge the cargo in the No. 3 hold that had been damaged by fire and water. The work was continued throughout to-day and had not been finished in the afternoon. Surveyors for the underwriters made a preliminary inspection of the cargo to-day and a thorough survey for dry-dock will be made to-morrow when all the bales of merchandise in the hold of the ship will have been discharged. It is hoped that there may not be any necessity for drying the *Prinz Ludwig*. It is yet too early to make a definite pronouncement, but to-morrow the marine surveyors will be able to determine accurately the damage, if any, to the hull that had been sustained by the magnificent N. D. L. steamer.

ONE MILLION DOLLARS DAMAGE.

When recording the destructive fire in our last issue we noted that a preliminary report up to the fifth hour yesterday indicated the hope that the loss caused by the fire might not be of a serious character, but that that optimistic statement might have to be modified by the course of events in the progress of the fire towards the afternoon. Our forecast was prompted by information upon which considerable reliance might be placed, and subsequent reports to-day amply bear out the confidence so implicitly placed by us. From the cursory examination so far made by competent experts of the damaged cargo, an estimate has been formed that the loss will approximate one million dollars in round figures. This enormous loss is not surprising, when the extremely valuable nature of the cargo stowed in the No. 3 hold is considered and its liability to practical total loss by fire and water. We understand that the agents in Hongkong (Messrs. Melchers & Co.) for the N. D. L. *Prinz Ludwig* are collecting a deposit of twenty per cent on account of general average.

ARREST AT SHEK-TONG-TSUI.

CHINAMAN ARMED WITH A RIFLE.

A certain house in Shek-tong-tsui was the scene of an extraordinary incident in the early hours of this morning. At about half-past two o'clock, when the peaceful neighbours round about the district were still asleep, a Chinaman called upon a European constable with a complaint that a certain Chinaman had refused to pay him his fare. The obstreperous individual was traced to a certain house, where he was found with a rifle in his possession. The constable asked the man if he possessed a permit and the latter replied that he had not one and at the same time added that he had no right to be there. He was promptly arrested with the rifle in his possession and both were conveyed to the Police Station. This morning he was charged with unlawful possession of a rifle and defendant threatened to bring a cross-summons against the constable for assault. Later in the day, the licence for the weapon was produced and the charge was withdrawn by the Police.

SUBSCRIPTION GRIEVINGS.

The fourth and last batch of subscription griffins (5 in all) arrived this morning by the s.s. *Choyang*. They were drawn for this afternoon at 5.30 p.m. at Kennedy Stables. Details of the drawing are as follows:—No. 56—grey, Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson. No. 57—grey, Capt. P. E. M. Taylor. No. 58—black, Maj.-Genl. Broadwood. No. 59—grey, Mr. J. R. M. Smith. No. 60—black, Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson.

OPIUM SMOULDERING IN AUSTRALIA.

Melbourne, November 7. On the arrival of the steamer *Eastern* yesterday from Chinese ports she was boarded by Customs officers. Among the passengers from Sydney in the second class was a young woman named May Silver. The Customs examining officer was not satisfied with the replies to his questions, and took her to his office at the Customs House, where she was accused of having opium concealed in her dress, and admitted that she had some in her possession, handling over no fewer than 54 tins.

When searched by the matron at the city lock-up it was found that Silver was wearing a canvas petticoat sewn with stout thread. The petticoat contained a number of strong pockets, each 18 inches in length and three inches in width, and from their capacity the problem of how such a large quantity of opium could be carried without much danger of detection was explained. The wearer's knees were bound with tape about 15 yards long, apparently with the intention of forming a pad that would prevent the knees from being bruised by the tins while walking. It was stated by Silver that she wore the tapes under medical instructions, owing to the presence of varicose veins. She further explained that she was merely obliging somebody else in bringing the opium to Melbourne.

The value of the opium is estimated at 2,500. Silver will appear at the City Court to-morrow on a charge of having been concerned in the importation of 54 tins of opium suitable for smoking.

Melbourne, November 8. At the City Court to-day, May Silver, who was arrested on Saturday when attempting to smuggle opium from the steamer *Eastern* 54 tins of opium, concealed in specially constructed canvas petticoats, was fined 200 on a charge of having been concerned in the importation of opium suitable for smoking.

Interport Contests.

SPECTATOR CRITICISES PLAY AND PLAYERS.

THE VOYAGE OF THE "PALAWAN."

A correspondent who has evinced the keenest interest in the recent interport matches at Hongkong and who assures us (*Strait Times*) that he had no time to take a long round the neighbouring Crown colony during his visit, has favoured us with the following impressions of play and players:—

Few who had the privilege and pleasure of travelling up by the steamer *Palawan* to Hongkong on her last trip desire to repeat the experience, but most things are out as bad as they are painted, and the journey was not half so bad as the uninitiated might suppose. A small craft and an old one, the *Palawan* certainly rolled a good deal, but really behaved very well in trying circumstances. The passengers stood the racket nobly. The ladies were one or two days invisible—most of them—the Straits cricketers and the other male passengers seemed to thrive on it. Bill, tough weather has its drawbacks, and sometimes at night when she gave a big roll the noise was deafening, just as if all the crockery in the ship were smashed. Further, when walking along the deck it is a fearful exertion to meet the smoking room door, not to mention a heavy gear seat apparently engaged in a clumsy attempt at a horripole. Considerable damage was done in other parts of the ship, ladders swept away, and even the bridge attacked, while there was water in the smoking room on two days and, with the decks impossible, the music saloon was rather uncomfortably crowded. The journey took us all nine days, the vessel being due in Hongkong on the Friday morning, but actually arriving on the Saturday morning. Monday afternoon needed in Hongkong, where serious people recalled the tragedy of the *Bokkara*, and when the vessel was sighted a cruiser was under orders to sail within a few hours in search of the missing boat. However, she was sighted just as the opening match—Hongkong v. Shanghai—was starting, and with lovely weather prevailing the interport cricket festival opened under the most favourable auspices.

TEAMS CRITICISED.

The Hongkong cricket ground is, as many readers will know, a very small one. During the whole of the time the Straits cricketers were there it was beautifully fine, if rather hot on one or two days. The wicket was fast and easy throughout, though occasionally it bumped a bit. It was disheartening work for bowlers, but, barring the Hongkong innings against Shanghai, the batting did not come up to expectations; in fact, a good deal of it was rank bad. Hongkong have a good batting side, Pearce being a very sound bat, while Edwards and Macdrell are fine hitters.

The Straits batting was disappointing, and the first pair (Eddie and Grenie) were about the only men that were really useful. Zahner played one good innings, as did Maerens, but the Hongkong batting was much more useful than a glance at the average would make one think. The injury to Hubback weakened the side in the Shanghai match, while McKenzie was quite out of form both with bat and ball. The Shanghai batting was weak, Anderson being their best man. They suffered, as did the Straits, from weak representation. Barrett looked as if he still served, but did not make much. The Hongkong bowlers were not very good, but they had a good occasional sower in the veteran Bird. Bird occasionally sowed down a good innings, but otherwise the bowling is not very strong, that of the Straits being superior. Grenie started bowling rather short at the outset, but improved as he went on, and Clarke bowled much better than the figure indicated. He did some particularly good work at the beginning of Hongkong's second innings in the concluding match, and as he made 36 had a large share in the victory of his combined bowlers. The Hongkong fielding was excellent until the last day, and Garnett to the slips held ten catches out of eleven attempts. The Straits fielding was also pretty good, but Shanghai's was deplorable. The Straits lost two men badly run out in their first innings against Hongkong, and several of the side seemed to have the most rudimentary notions of when there is a run, backing up, etc. To sum up, Hongkong were undoubtedly the best of the three sides, though the Straits team would probably put a much better show against the same team in Singapore, and we suppose Shanghai felt more or less the same.

HONGKONG'S HOSPITALITY.

The Straits swept the board at tennis, and only lost two sets in the three days. Cox and Birch did quite a good combination, the former excelling at placing and the latter at "killing" the ball. In the singles, Cox ran it pretty fine with Tounisni, of Shanghai, losing the first two sets, but simply made rings round Carr, the Hongkong man.

Hongkong hospitality is renowned, and in this respect the festival just concluded may well compare with its predecessors. After the conclusion of the Hongkong-Shanghai match a dance was held in the Hongkong Club—surely the finest Club in the East. The team were also invited to the King's Birthday ball, the grandest House in the Colony at the time. Mr. R. N. Anderson of Shanghai, and Dr. P. H. Hennessey of the Straits. A bat was also presented to Lieut. R. H. Clarke after his fine play in the concluding match. The list of presentations did not end here, for the unlucky men of the Straits team received a suitable memento. Hongkong, as cricket champions, retained the visitors' flag, and a spirited effort by our tennis players to bring away the Hongkong flag off the launch was only just frustrated. The Straits team left Hongkong on December 1 the *Wamer*, and, needless to say, their departure was "fully choral."

His Excellency the Governor has given his assent in the name and on behalf of His Majesty the King to the following Ordinances passed by the Legislative Council:—Ordinance No. 40 of 1900—An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to Trade Marks. Ordinance No. 41 of 1900—An Ordinance to exempt Crown Leases granted in respect of Foreshore and submerged lands in the New Territories from a certain condition imposed under the Foreshore and Sea Bed Ordinance, 1901. Ordinance No. 42 of 1900—An Ordinance to amend the Wireless Telegraphy Ordinance, 1903, and the Wireless Telegraphy Ordinance, 1905, and to amend the Order made under the Wireless Telegraphy Ordinance, 1903, and the Order made under the Wireless Telegraphy Ordinance, 1905.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber last Thursday Evening. His Excellency the Governor, Sir Frederick Lugard, K.C.M.G., Hon. Sir Henry May, K.C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary), Hon. Mr. F. A. Heselwood (Attorney-General), Hon. Mr. A. M. Thomson (Colonial Treasurer), Hon. Mr. P. N. H. Jones (Director of Public Works), Hon. Mr. F. J. Badesley (Captain Superintendent of Police), Hon. Mr. A. W. Brewin (Registrar General), Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, M.B., C.M.G., Hon. Mr. Wei Yuk, C.M.G., Hon. Mr. F. Osborne, Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewitt, Hon. Mr. Murray Stewart, and Mr. G. Clement (Clerk of Council).

ABSENT.

Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

FINANCIAL MINUTES.

The Colonial Secretary laid on the table Financial Minutes Nos. 77 to 80. It was agreed that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The Colonial Secretary, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee (No. 30). It was unanimously agreed that it be adopted by the Council.

LIQUORS DUTIES.

The Colonial Secretary moved the following Resolution under Section 4 of the Liquor Ordinance Amendment Ordinance No. 30 of 1900:—

Resolved that the sum of \$2,185 as an import allowance up to and including the 31st December, 1900, be paid out of the public revenue of the Colony as a rebate in part of the duties paid on intoxicating liquors to the Naval Authorities in respect of the duties paid on intoxicating liquors (not being naval stores) the property of His Majesty consumed at the Royal Naval Canton.

Further resolved that the sum of \$10,468 as an import allowance up to and including the 31st December, 1900, be paid out of the public revenue of the Colony as a rebate in part of the duties paid on intoxicating liquors to the Military Authorities in respect of the duties paid on intoxicating liquors (not being military stores) the property of His Majesty consumed at Headquarters House and the military messes and canteens in the Colony or purchased by married officers or men borne on the strength of the Garrison for their own consumption.

Further resolved that the sum of \$3,400 as an import allowance for the year 1901 be paid out of the public revenue of the Colony as a rebate in part of the duties paid on intoxicating liquors to the Military Authorities in respect of the duties paid on intoxicating liquors (not being military stores) the property of His Majesty consumed at Headquarters House and the military messes and canteens in the Colony or purchased by married officers or men borne on the strength of the Garrison for their own consumption.

The Colonial Treasurer:—The amount should be treated as a debit to revenue instead of an item of expenditure. This would make all the difference as to payment of 20 per cent for military contribution thereon. It would cost \$1,000 more if you treated it as expenditure. His Excellency the Governor said that the point raised by the Colonial Treasurer would be referred to the Secretary of State and he (the speaker) would recommend that the point should receive his favourable consideration. Resolution carried.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

His Excellency the Governor said that the recommendation he made some time ago with regard to the establishment of a wireless station to the Minister at Peking had been considered by the War and Navy and His Excellency had informed him (the Governor) that the War and Navy referred the matter to the Board of Ports and Communications and they replied that orders had been given to make the necessary arrangements. (Applause).

STAMP ORDINANCE.

The Attorney General moved the third reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Stamp Ordinance, 1901. The Bill was read a third time and passed.

SQUATTERS ORDINANCE.

On the motion of the Attorney General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Squatters Ordinance, 1890, was read a third time and passed.

LIQUORS ORDINANCE.

The Attorney General moved the third reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Liquor Licences Ordinance, 1905, and the Liquor Licences Extension Ordinance, 1908, and to amend the Liquor Licences Amendment Ordinance, 1901. The Bill was read a third time and passed.

POSTOFFICE.

The following Bills were postponed:—Second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Code of Civil Procedure.

Second reading of the Bill.

Second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Tramway Ordinance, 1902.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council adjourned sine die.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately after the meeting of Council, the Colonial Secretary presiding. It was agreed to recommend that the following votes be adopted by the Council:—

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

A sum of three hundred dollars in aid of the vote, Judicial and Legal Departments, B.—Magistrate, Other Charges, New Territories, Incidental Expenses.

FLOATING FIRE ENGINE.

A sum of forty-four thousand one hundred and twenty-one dollars in aid of the vote, Police and Prison Departments, special expenditure, the brigade, floating fire engine.

SPECIAL MAINT.

A sum of eighty-one thousand three hundred and fourteen dollars in aid of the vote, Post Office, Hongkong Post Office, Other Charges, for the following items:—

Carriage of Mails.

Share of Mail Subsidy \$14,374
Post Office Charges 17,000
Lighting of Mails 1,000
Total \$32,374

Dr. Ho Kai objected to the fact that most of this money was being paid for the benefit of the Siberian mail. He held that the general taxpayer should not be called upon to pay \$37,000 for the benefit of a few who made use of this route.

There was no discussion.

This was all the business.

THE PRATAS ISLAND QUESTION.

PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION.

A telegram has reached the Government from Mr. Segawa, Japanese Consul at Canton, to the effect that the amount of compensation, ¥100,000, payable by the Chinese Government to Mr. Nishikawa for his business on Pratas Island was received from the Chinese authorities on the 2nd instant.

THE AMERICAN TOURISTS.

LIVE ABOARD THE "CLEVELAND."

As we have already announced, the largest party of tourists, 638 in all, and the largest steamer ever visiting Singapore, the *Cleveland*, are due here at daylight, to-morrow, reports the *Strait Times* of 9th inst. Half of the passengers will land at Johnston's Pier, at about 6.30 a.m. and be conveyed in all manner of vehicles to the Tank Road railway station, where a special train will take them to Johore. All the vehicles of that place have been engaged for their use. The other half will remain on board the steamer, till after their breakfast which has through the tour been served at two sittings, as the meals on board are of the finest and of such quality as to be served at the hotel. They will land at about 7.45 a.m. and go to Raffles Hotel, which will be the local headquarters for the party. Thence they will be taken to the Botanical Gardens, through Government House grounds, and to other points of interest, going to Johore, in the afternoon, after a tiffin at Raffles. The first party returns at 12.45 p.m. from Johore, and will make the same tour of Singapore in the afternoon that the other party did in the morning. At 4.30 p.m. the whole party meets at Raffles Hotel, and the steamer will sail for Batavia, shortly after 5 o'clock.

DESCRIPTION OF THE VESSEL.

The *Cleveland* is one of the latest additions to the fleet of the Hamburg-American Line. She is of 16,000 registered tonnage, and was built by Messrs. Blohm and Voss, of Hamburg. She was launched in December, 1902, made her trial trip, on March 16, of this year, and her maiden trip across the Atlantic was begun on March 23. Her length is 600 feet, her beam 65 feet, and her height 100 feet. She is built of steel, and is provided with five decks, and a double bottom extending the entire length of the ship, divided into numerous watertight compartments. She is equipped with two sets of quadruple expansion engines, giving the vessel a speed of 16 knots. For the safety of the vessel and its passengers, all the latest appliances have been provided: an automatic hydraulic system for closing watertight doors; a system of elevators, water compartments, and other machinery, which is subdivided into automatic fire-extinguishers, inter-communicating telephones, submarine signal system, and wireless telegraphy. Her two yellow funnels are short-cut funnels as given a singular appearance by the manner in which she is built up amidships where the passenger accommodation is situated. This extends over 5 decks, namely, the main, saloon, awning, upper, and promenade. They are connected by a grand and smaller companion ways, and an electric passenger elevator serves the five upper decks. The grand entrance hall and companion way have received special attention, and well-furnished and decorated suites have been located on both the promenade and upper decks. Single and two-bath rooms with bath and toilet rooms have been furnished and equipped with the idea of making the traveller feel at home. The *Cleveland*, when making her usual runs between Hamburg and America, has accommodation for 3,000 passengers, and in the first-class, 200 in the second-class, and 2,000 in the steerage. For the present tour, however, she has been adapted to carry only 700 passengers in the first and second-class cabins, but the passengers travel as one class only. The food is identical the same whether served in the first or second class saloon, and the differences in the charges for the complete cruise depend only upon the position of the cabin occupied. The vessel carries a crew of 436 all told. The full complement have travelled with the steamer. The dining-room has seating accommodation for 250 passengers, while the dining-room aft, in ordinary circumstances the second-class saloon, seat 500. A popular attraction on the voyage out has been the two swimming pools provided on deck for passengers' use, while two more pools are also provided for the crew. The whole of the catering for the voyage has been undertaken by the Hamburg-American Co. By means of her installation of the Marconi wireless telegraphy system the *Cleveland* has her Atlantic voyage rendered more comfortable and interesting. She is in constant communication with land, either with Croyhaven in Ireland or Cape Cod near New York. The installation will take in messages from any distance up to 2,000 miles, but is only capable of despatching to a distance of 300 miles.

ARRANGEMENTS ON BOARD.

Inter-communicating telephones add to the comfort and facilities aboard this magnificent modern liner, which furnishes the tourist party with a veritable floating palace. The long and interesting tour which they embark at New York, on October 10, and at the end of which they will have covered nearly 30,000 miles by water and land. The dining-room, extending the full width of the ship, has been exquisitely furnished. Small tables have been provided for seating two, four or six persons. Each table has an electric table lamp with decorative lamp-shades. A social bar, or lounge on the promenade deck at the head of the grand staircase is a masterpiece of the decorator's art. It is furnished with luxurious divans and chairs, and has a library of carefully-selected volumes. A writing room is also available, and the music and ladies-room, provide delightful opportunities for entertainment and recreation. The smoking room is situated on the after end of the bridge-deck, and is connected with the music room and lounge by a beautifully decorated vestibule and covered passage. The entire treatment is one of artistic harmony, and social life on board offers a striking example of home life comfort, which can be provided on modern vessels of the *Cleveland's* type. In addition to the public rooms mentioned, there is also a gymnasium, equipped with Zander electrical apparatus, electric light bath, photographers' dark room, a library, bookstall and information bureau.

Throughout the steamer light and ventilation have been provided according to the most advanced ideas, and every cabin has an electric fan, which is under the independent control of the occupant. All the rooms have large, deep wardrobes, and are exceptionally large and attractive, and all the passengers have the same deck and saloon privileges.

Messrs. E. D. Salmon & Co., the agents for the Queen Insurance Co., Ltd., favour us with a deck blotter, pocket diary and wall calendar for the coming year.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.)

A. A. A. MEETING.

To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph." Sir,—It is reported that the A. A. A. Meeting has been postponed to the 2nd of April, for which I think there is absolutely no necessity. The Amateur Athletic Association is considered to be the largest Association for athletics to the world, and it seems strange that its Hongkong branch should be unable to hold a meeting this year. There would not have been lack of entries if individual Clubs had been approached earlier instead of entries being solicited by means of a restricted form of advertisement.

I understand that there has been a good deal of hard training in view of the sports taking place on the 18th December.

I would point out that the postponed date—2nd April—will clash with the annual meetings of the V.R.C., L.R.C. and the B.O.C. Thanking you in anticipation for inserting the above in your valued columns, I am, Sir, Yours faithfully, H. J. C. O'NEILL, ATHLETICS.

Hongkong, 15th December.

TASMANIA'S NORTH-WEST COAST.

ITS IMMENSE POSSIBILITIES.

To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph." Sir,—How many people in your state are aware of the immense possibilities of this compact and fertile island? Not much inferior in size to Ireland, it contains a handful of 185,000 people, who occupy the territory rich in minerals, blessed with a lovely climate, and watered with pure streams of delicious water. These advantages are all great, but the counterpoint in the months of early summer, and wind amongst vernal valleys over which one of green morey replaces another to mark the seasonal change. What you will ask has to the cause of keeping such an Elysium in the background? What has given Tasmania, the gem island set in the southern seas, the title of the "Cinderella" of the states of Australia? Well, one reason is in fact that it has not been assisted by any great minerals boom such as Western Australia; nor do we possess millions of acres of grassy plains to dispose of as in the case of Queensland.

The mines that will transmute Tasmania's mineral wealth into gold is the energy of the diligent prospector, the patient miner, the skilled metallurgist, and the enterprising capitalist. All these various factors or phases and energy we have, but more is wanted, especially more capital for the development of this land of minerals—gold, lead, silver, copper, wolfram, blismuth, etc. Again, the grassy plains of Australia find their counterpoint here in chocolate soil, of unsurpassed fertility, but nature guards her treasure from the hands of the unworthy by a mantle of timber—often valuable timber—hardwood being preferred to pine for building purposes. This mantle which impedes settlement is now being removed from the agricultural paradise, the excellence of Tasmania—the potential North-West Coast, with the area of progressive legislation, which at last is dawning on Tasmania, trust with the pending state elections, this state, and particularly the richly endowed North-West corner of it will, like Hope, personified, spring "emerging on triumphant wings." There is in short to the enterprising settler, whether he be of large, moderate or small means, a vista of comfortable and congenial existence opening out if he will "step this way please."

Believing as I do in the future of Australia, and in Tasmania's North-West Coast in particular, I would demand a special favour if allowed to advance through your columns some facts for intending settlers. In the first place, let me say that the North-West Coast is studded with growing towns—Devonport, from which town I write, is the commercial entrepot of the North-West, and the outlet for the increasing production from land valued at £3,000,000. Last year over half a million pounds worth of produce was exported to Sydney and other Australian ports. Devonport is a town of over 4,000 inhabitants, lighted with electricity, and possessing every modern convenience. The harbour is an excellent one, and over £100,000 has been spent improving it. Vessels of over 8,000 tons register have found accommodation here, and twice a week a vessel drawing 16ft (the Onahua) trades between Devonport and Melbourne. While every week two produce boats of similar draft ship produce from Devonport to Sydney taking large cargoes. Up to 40,000 bags of potatoes are shipped to Sydney. Devonport is the chief port of call for the North-West Coast. Now for a few

CANTON DAY BY DAY.

PONIES FOR THE ARMY.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 13th December.
A large consignment of ponies, about a hundred in all, arrived here the other day by the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Co.'s steamer. These ponies were bought at Kalgan by the Canton Military Department for the newly trained provincial troops.

SWATOW-CANTON RAILWAY.
The local authorities propose to build a railway to connect Swatow and Canton. Engineer-in-chief Wu Chia Tung and two others arrived here a few days ago and will soon start to survey the proposed road.

CONSULAR VISIT.
At 10 o'clock this morning H.E. Viceroy Yuan received the American Consul-General at Canton.

FORTHCOMING SPORTS.
The sports to be held under the auspices of the Self-Government Society have been fixed to take place at the East Parade Ground for two days on the 15th and 16th days this month (the 15th and 16th proximo). Programmes have been drawn up for distribution. The officials appear to greatly favour the sports.

PRISON.
Soon after assuming charge of office as acting Kwangchow Prefect, Van Kien Chi made an inspection of both the Nanhai and Pan Yu prisons. He is satisfied to find these prisons in good order.

ANTI-OPIMUM CAMPAIGN.
Since the establishment of the Government Anti-Opium Bureau at Canton, it is learnt that thirty-five officials, who were admitted to the Bureau for treatment, have recovered from their evil habit of opium smoking.

MAGISTRATE DISMISSED.
As a result of the murder of five persons in a lodging house in the town of Shik Lung, as reported a few days ago, the Magistrate of Tung Kuo district has been dismissed by the Viceroy and Tsui Hing Yuan has been appointed to fill the vacancy.

FIRE.
At seven o'clock last evening a fire took place in the vicinity of the North Gate close to the Kung Kiu bridge where six buildings have been completely destroyed.

15th December.

ANTI-OPIMUM CAMPAIGN.
H.E. Viceroy Yuan Shu Huan has approved of the suggestions of the Canton Anti-Opium Bureau to the effect that (from the beginning of next Chinese year, the plantation of poppy in the province of Kwangtung will be entirely prohibited. In the event of failure to observe this order, such fields on which poppy may be found to be planted will be forfeited to the Government and the district magistrate will be cashiered.

ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF OPIUM.
On payment of a fine of \$100, the man who was arrested for being in possession of four balls of opium, at the railway station in Wung-sha a fortnight ago, was released by the Anti-Opium Bureau.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.
Mr. Liang Yung Wu, a member of the Ministry of Posts and Communications, who has been deputed to visit Canton to make an inspection of, and to report on, the progress of the work on the construction of the Canton-Hankow Railway, arrived here this morning from Hongkong by the steamer *Pathian*.

PROVINCIAL TREASURER.
The Canton Provincial Treasurer-designate, Chan Kwal Lin, left Shanghai on the 14th instant to proceed to the Southern Capital to take up his appointment; he is expected to arrive at Canton in the course of about four days as advised in a telegram received by the Canton officials.

FIRE.
At 8 p.m. on the 13th instant a serious outbreak of fire occurred in the city at Shik Hing street in a dwelling house through the exploding of a kerosene oil lamp. The fire continued to burn for three hours and destroyed thirty-two buildings in all.

16th December.

ENCOURAGING SPORTS.
A large assortment of articles has been promised by various gentlemen and institutions as prizes to be awarded to the winners at the local sports to be held on the 27th and 28th instant.

SALT MONOPOLY.
With reference to the Kwangtung Salt Monopoly which it was proposed to let to certain farmers for the increased rental of \$12,000,000 a year, it is now learnt that the officials will place a limit on the price of this commodity which is not to exceed 5.6 candareens per catty. It is the intention of H.E. Viceroy Yuan to appropriate this enormous sum of money to replace the loss of revenue occasioned by the proposed abolition of the different gambling monopolies. This salt monopoly question has attracted the close attention of the people and has formed the subject of considerable discussion. In spite of opposition, the monopoly will probably be granted to the tenderers shortly though strong objections are raised by the people. The suppression of gambling is a question of vital importance, and if there is no prospect of raising money sufficient to make good the loss to the revenue it will hardly be possible to effect a step to the practice of gambling in Kwangtung.

CONTRABAND ARMS.
A letter has been received by the Canton authorities from the Chinese Consul at Singapore advising that a large quantity of arms and ammunition is about to be imported by revolutionists into Canton destined for the interior of Kwangtung. On receipt of this information the authorities have given instructions to take precautionary steps to prevent the importation of the contraband.

FATAL COLLISION.
On the 13th instant a steam-launch collided with a ferry boat in Kam Chuk with the result that the ferry boat was capsized and twenty-six passengers thrown into the river. Two of the passengers were drowned and the remaining twenty-four were saved.

THE advantages of travelling by the vessels of the Navigators General Italia are highly extolled in a pamphlet which we have received from Messrs. Carlouville and Co., the local representatives of the line. We have not worked out what the cost of travelling from Hongkong to Genoa or Brindisi by the N. G. l. amounts to as compared with the fare charged by the N. D. L. or P. & O. boats but we feel sure that they are really very low. The brochure will be sent by the intending traveller with interest, especially as it is adorned with a multitude of pictures. We read: "The steamers *Capri* and *Jade*, of large carrying capacity, are now plying on the Bombay-Singapore-Hongkong line; they have on class of accommodation; cabins are large, comfortable and lighted by electricity. The dining room is on the main deck. They call optionally at Colombo and Penang."

ELLIS KADOOORIE SCHOOL.

ESTABLISHMENT AT SHANGHAI.

The following is the official correspondence referred to in the Shanghai report, printed in our last Tuesday's issue, of the proposed establishment of the Ellis Kadoorie School in the Northern Settlement:

With reference to the minutes of the meeting of the Committee of the Public School for Chinese of November 22, published in the *Municipal Gazette* of December 2, the Council observes the satisfactory record of attendance as an indication that the institution is fully performing its function.

The question of extension upon the lines indicated on page 216 of the Annual Report for 1907 is considered in connection with the recommendations of the Committee of the Public School for Chinese, which has recorded the view that the need for such an institution is now beyond doubt, and that the resulting expenditure on Chinese education would not be out of proportion to the needs of the large native community resident in the Settlement.

It is accordingly unanimously decided to make provision in the Budget for purchase of a site in Szechuan about 12 mow in extent, and to submit the scheme for the ratepayers' approval.

Shanghai, November 30, 1909.
Sir, It will be in the recollection of the Council in 1907 I made an offer to contribute Tls. 25,000 towards the building of a second Municipal School for Chinese on certain terms. My offer was carefully considered but it was not accepted; as the Council were of opinion that the scheme was somewhat premature. On being informed of this I consented to hold my offer at the Council's disposal until a more suitable time. I may state that one of the reasons which influenced the Council at the time was the fact that the present Public School for Chinese was not full and that therefore there did not appear to be an immediate necessity for another school. This, however, is not the case now, for I understand that the Chinese Public School is quite full and many applicants have in consequence been refused admission.

Under these circumstances I would like to inform the Council that I am prepared to renew my previous offer on the following terms. The terms subject to which I respectfully make my offer are as follows:

The Municipal Council to procure the land for the school, the area to be 12 mow, and the land to be in the locality of Szechuan.

The school to be known as the Ellis Kadoorie Public School for Chinese.

The school to be managed by the present Committee of the Public School for Chinese and on similar lines. Copies of every annual report of the school to be sent to the Ellis Kadoorie Chinese School Society in Hongkong.

And I, on my part, will contribute a sum of Tls. 25,000 and will endeavour to do my best to collect further funds for the purpose of adding to the building if the school requirement call for such addition.

If this offer with the terms mentioned is entertained favourably, I trust the Council will see fit to submit the same to the ratepayers at the next ratepayers' meeting for adoption.

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
ELLIS KADOOORIE.

D. LANDALE, Esq.,
Chairman, Municipal Council.

Council Room,
Shanghai, December 2, 1909.
Sir, I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of November 30, containing a re-affirmation of your offer with respect to the foundation of a second Public School for Chinese. These proposals are in accordance with the desire of the committee of the present school, and the Council has received that committee's strong recommendation that they be accepted. I am directed therefore to state that the scheme will be submitted for adoption by the ratepayers at the next annual meeting and to convey to you a most cordial expression of the Council's appreciation of your generous promised benefaction.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
W. E. LEVISO, Secretary.

ELLIS KADOOORIE, Esq.

COMMERCIAL.

YARN MARKET.

Hongkong, 10th December, 1909.
Further improvement has been established in our market for Indian yarn, and dealers have, in several instances, advanced on their offers which had previously been refused, and fairly large quantities were effected in the earlier portion of the interval, as noted at foot. No. 20s have again attracted much attention, chiefly for the Northern and Tonkin markets and form the bulk of sales, prices showing an appreciation of \$1 to \$1.50 per bale. Best qualities No. 16s are inquired for at advancing prices, and being in very small supply holders have been able to obtain the values demanded by them. The lower counts are not much in request, but they are firmly held and may be quoted one to two dollars higher. Receipts during the interval are small and with larger offers stocks show a substantial decrease on last estimate and are now within very narrow limits, the market closing quiet but firm. Bombay yarn continues strong and latest telegrams from that place report strong sales by China exporters of over 50,000 bales on the basis of annas 6 7/16 for No. 10s, and 7 1/4 for No. 20s for the Shanghai and Hongkong markets.

Sales of the interval aggregate 5,724 bales, arrivals amount to 4,749 bales, stocks estimated at 10,000 bales.

Local Manufacture.—No business is reported.

Japanese Yarn.—There is no change in the continued quietness of these threads.

Raw Cotton.—The market is bare of stock in Indian descriptions. A small importation of 200 bales *New superfine* Bengals was taken up at \$5.05. In China kinds a small parcel of 95 bales *Thongchow* has changed hands at \$5.85. *Thongchow* 70 bales. Quotations are Indian *Old* \$11 to \$15. *New*, \$14 to \$17. *China* \$15 to \$19.

Exchange on India.—After having touched Rs. 128 for T/T and Rs. 124 for Post, closes today at Rs. 131 and 132 respectively. On Shanghai 147 75 and on Japan 86 1/2.

The undernoted business is imported and local spinings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 4th inst., viz:—
Indian—The demand continues unabated, and about 4,000 bales have been sold at an advance of one to two Taels. Estimated stock, 41,000 bales.

Japanese.—Are in good demand, and about 1,000 bales have changed hands at Tls. 100 1/2 to 114 for No. 16s and Tls. 116 1/2 to 121 1/2 for No. 20s. Close strong.

Local.—In very good inquiry, about 9,000 bales changing hands on the basis of Tls. 107 1/2 to 110 for No. 14s and Tls. 104 to 114 for No. 16s.

HONGKONG, 11th DECEMBER, 1909.

Since the issue of our last report on the 26th ultimo, the market has continued in the same strong position as previously mentioned, one or two dealers who had largely operated for a rise continuing their purchases at an advance of \$1 to \$3 on previous quotations. On the other hand other large dealers kept entirely aloof from the market and were not buying except for their urgent wants. Subsequently a favourable recovery in exchange discouraged the speculators who have now ceased operations, and the state of our market has now become uncertain. We may mention that Bombay has been greatly influenced by the excitement in Shanghai, and we close quiet but steady with some importers eager to realize at current rates while others are firm and holding on.

No. 6s & 8s.—Small sales at former rates. **No. 10s & 12s.**—Show an improvement of \$1 to 3 per bale, but are in no great demand. **No. 16s** prices, but small supply have fetched very high prices, but sales are trifling.

No. 20s.—Are in excessive demand and some well-known superior desirable tickets have been taken up largely at an advance of \$1 to \$2 per bale while other undesirable tickets have changed at a slight increase. **Total Sales** 5,500 bales. **Unsold Stocks** estimated at 14,000 bales. **Sold but undelivered** in the Godowns, and to arrive 22,000 bales.

The mail str. *Delta* and extra str. *Tokaido* from Bombay, and str. *Kaw-yang* from Calcutta have brought in 3,954 bales for Hongkong, and 9,500 bales for Shanghai, shipments from Hongkong to Shanghai, and coast ports &c. amount to about 200 bales.

Shanghai.—Is reported very strong and a further rise of 1 to 3 taels has taken place with a considerable business. **Japanese Yarn.**—Market almost closed.

Local Mill.—No sales. **Raw Cotton.**—There is no stock of old Indian cotton, and the importation of 200 bales *New Bengals* has been taken up at \$5.05. The cotton is really of a much better quality than last year being whiter in colour and striking free from seeds and yellow spots. Stocks 25 bales. In China kinds a parcel of 95 bales has changed hands at \$5.85 stocks 170 bales. We quote *Old Bengals* \$11 to \$13 and *New* \$14 to \$17. *China* \$15 to \$19.

Rupees. T/T 13 1/2 sterling. D/D 10 1/2 Shanghai. T/T 75. **Rupees.** D/D 13 1/2 sterling. 4m/12 1/2 1/16 Japan. \$3 1/2 per silver 23 1/2.

POLISHWALL & KOTWALL,
Cotton and Yarn Brokers.

FREIGHT MARKET.

Messrs. Lamke and Rogge write in their freight circular of 11th December:

The volume of business transacted since the 27th ultimo is on about the same scale as during the preceding fortnight; rates in some instances are being advanced, but in others a certain scarcity of tonnage is felt, and a good deal of inquiries in various directions remain unanswered. It is generally anticipated in shipping circles and everything points to that we will see a better market next year than we have experienced for a long time past.

Saigon/Hongkong.—Against all expectations Saigon has come to the front with inquiries for prompt loading. This may be explained by the new crop coming on the market earlier than expected, and in consequence millers are desirous to clear the old stock as soon as possible.

The few regular liners in position being inadequate to meet the sudden demand, rates have consequently jumped from 9 cents to 14 cents, but even at this figure no outside tonnage has been procurable up to the time of writing, as same does not allow vessels to proceed from here to the loading port in ballast with any profit to owners.

The spring's prospects continue to be judged favourable, however, nothing as yet has been done in the way of chartering for consecutive trips for forward loading, commencing second half January/February, on account of the holding back on the part of owners.

Saigon/Singapore.—The lower price of grain ruling has led to several fixtures at fairly good rates, s.s. *Talawa* 35,000 piculs at \$5.00, s.s. *Nord* 25,000 piculs \$5.00 and s.s. *Dorra* 22,250 piculs at \$5.70 lump sum, all in Saigon currency.

Further orders in the market have not met with any response on account of scarcity of suitable tonnage.

Saigon/Philippines.—Only one fixture has transpired on basis of 25 cents to Manila.

Saigon/Java.—Nothing has been done locally since last reported, market all round being firmer, owners are holding out for higher rates.

Dalry and Chefoo to Canton.—After the closing of the port of Newchwang, importers of beans have had inducement to take up a couple of boats for Canton, viz. s.s. *Michael Jahan* 15,000 piculs at 25 cents, and a smaller boat, s.s. *Providence* 22,000 piculs, from Dalry only, at 26 cents per picul.

Concerning Yangtze river freights, a few charters also have been arranged in Shanghai from Wuhu to Canton at 19 candareens and Wuhu/Chingkiang to Swatow at 20 candareens, liners' terms.

For cattle trade the s.s. *Tungus* has been chartered at \$5,500 lump sum for a trip Pheud-pen to Manila.

Coal freights are very steady and tonnage difficult to obtain. There have been fixtures Moji to Hongkong \$1.85 and \$1.80, Kuching/Hongkong \$1.90, Hongkong/Shanghai P.T. Hongkong/Chingkiang \$1.15, and Labuan/Singapore \$1.75, str. C.

Sail Tonnage Loading or to Load.—For Baltimore and New York—British ship *Jutepolis*, 2,652 tons reg., arrived 11th September. British ship *Lyndhurst*, 2,311 tons, arrived 25th September.

Sail Tonnage Disengaged.—None. **Departure of Sailing.**—None.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

Reviewing the share business for the week, Messrs. E. S. Kadoorie & Co. write yesterday afternoon:

The week under review has been a quiet one and with few exceptions the market has ruled weak. "Rubber" have also been quiet with sympathy with the London market, but generally speaking stocks close steady with a disposition to buy at the somewhat lower rates now obtaining. There is no change in the price of Para hard fine Rubber, which last advice gave at 7 1/2 per lb.

Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks ruled quiet, and are on offer at 90 1/2. The London rate however has improved to 22 1/2. National rate is in demand at 85, but sellers are not forthcoming.

Marine Insurance.—Cantons are obtainable at \$150. Unions are steady and can be placed at \$800. North China after small sales at Tls. 112 1/2 are inquired for at the rate. Yangtze are nominally quoted in the North at \$300.

Fire Insurance.—China Firms are steady at \$1. Hongkong Firms are on offer at \$75. Shipping, China and Manila and Douglases are quiet and without business to report. Hongkong Ocean and Macao Steamboats have been sold at \$11 1/2 and the close further buyers prevail at \$11 1/2. Indian Chinese have again come into favour with buyers at \$65 and possibly a higher rate could be obtained, but there are not available.

The North sales have taken place at Tls. 44 and Tls. 46 closing firm at Tls. 46 1/2. Shell Transport are firm and wanted at the slightly increased rate of 63 1/2. Star Farries, old and new, are unchanged and without business to report.

Refineries.—China Sugars continue quiet at \$150 and 1/2 in the North. **Perak Sugars** are in requisition at Tls. 315 in the North.

Mining.—Chinese Engineers have buyers at Tls. 120. **Rabbs** are out of favour and neglected at 37 1/2.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Kowloon Wharves are easier and on offer at \$61 1/2. Whampoa Docks are also quiet with sellers at \$52. **Shanghai Docks** are reported sold in the North at Tls. 70 1/2. **Hongkong Wharves** have declined to Tls. 12 1/2 at which price sales have been put through.

Land, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Hotels have risen to 37 1/2, at which rate they are in demand at \$15. Sales of Hongkong Lands have been effected at \$102, and further buyers prevail. **Humphreys Estates** have been sold at \$8 1/2 and more can be had at the rate.

Cotton Mills.—Hongkong Cottons have again been dealt in at \$54. **Ewos** have declined and under the heading we take the following changes from latest mail advice to hand. **Internationals Tls. 7 1/2.** **Lau Kung Mow Tls. 101.** **Soyceps Tls. 42 1/2.**

Miscellaneous.—China Providents have been sold at \$9 1/2 and more can be had. **Chien Light and Powers** are firm at \$6. **Green Island Cements** have found buyers at \$7 1/2 but sellers now prevail at the rate. **Philippines** are firm and wanted at \$9 1/2. **Langkats** have experienced further activity since we wrote last and at the close buyers have offered Tls. 830 ex final dividend of Tls. 12 1/2, and bonus of Tls. 3 1/2 paid on the 15th inst. **Sumatras** have experienced a sharp rise to Tls. 12 1/2, but can be had at the rate.

Rubbers.—Anglo Malays are in demand at 13 1/2, with no sellers under 14 1/2. **Balgowries** have attracted considerable attention during the week, and after sales at various rates up to 37 1/2 are on offer at \$50. **Castles** are firm and inquired for at \$80. **Damans** are offering at 80 1/2. There are buyers of **Colons** at 55 1/2 and **Highlands** and **Lowlands** at 63 1/2. **Adams**, after sales at 43 1/2, are wanted at the slightly reduced rate of 38 1/2. **Kuala Lumpur** have been dealt in at 83 1/2, but at the close buyers only offer 87 1/2. **Labours** after sales at 48 1/2 are slightly easier at 47 1/2. The partly paid shares have been sold at 18 1/2. **Saggas** are firm at 95 1/2. **Chagas** have been in favour and sales have taken place at 56 1/2. **Paginas** are weaker with sellers at 37 1/2. **Sandycrofts** are in demand at 37 1/2.

Exchange.—The Bank's selling rate on London is 10 1/2 on demand. The T/T rate on Shanghai is 7 1/2.

Dividends Payable.—Anglo Malays—Second interim of 12 1/2 per cent. for 1909. **Valam** broasr.—Interim of 1/4 for 1909. **Lingis**—Quarterly dividend of 6d. per share.

Forward Settlements.—The following date has been fixed by the Stockbrokers' Association of Hongkong for Forward Settlements:—December settlement 29th December.

TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.

Selling.
London—Bank T.T. 10 1/2
Do. Demand 10 1/2
Do. 6 months' sight 10 1/2
France—Bank T.T. 2 1/2
America—Bank T.T. 43 1/2
Germany—Bank T.T. 13 1/2
India T.T. 13 1/2
Do. Demand 13 1/2
Shanghai—Bank T.T. 7 1/2
Singapore—Bank T.T. per H.K. 5 1/2
Japan—Bank T.T. 87 1/2
Java—Bank T.T. 107 1/2

Buying.
4 months' sight L/C. 10 1/2
6 months' sight L/C. 10 1/2
30 days' sight San Francisco & New York. 44 1/2
4 months' sight do. 44 1/2
30 days' sight Sydney & Melbourne. 110 1/2
4 months' sight France. 23 1/2
4 months' sight Germany. 23 1/2
4 months' sight Japan. 87 1/2
Bar Silver. 24 1/2
Bank of England rate. 4 1/2
Sovereign. 11 1/2

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The political prospects of the Korean Cabinet are at present unfavourable.

A severe shock of earthquake was experienced in Tokio on November 30.

The light-vessel *Brila*, off the south-east coast of Borneo, is reported to have disappeared.

A fire at Kochi, Shikoku, Japan, on November 30, resulted in the destruction of over 300 houses.

At Fukuoka, Japan, recently, owing to a shaft-rope snapping, nine men were buried down an 840 foot shaft.

The U.S.S. *Pennsylvania* (armoured cruiser) and *Virginia* (cruiser) arrived in port last Sunday morning from Manila.

Since January last thirteen collisions occurred on Japanese railroads, an average of over ten persons being killed in each.

CERTAIN F. H. R. Hill, D.O., Royal Facilities, has been appointed Chief Consular Officer in North China, with headquarters at Tientsin.

A JAPANESE was last Monday fined \$5 for tearing the dress of a competitor and was further ordered to pay for the damaged article.

His Excellency the Governor will preside at the annual distribution of prizes, at St. Joseph's College, on Wednesday, 21st inst., at 4.30 p.m.

As usual Messrs. Watson & Co. are issuing a beautifully illuminated calendar calling attention to their wares. It is an ornament as well as a record.

The negotiations in connection with the proposed exclusive Chinese Settlements in Korea, which have been in progress in Seoul, have been concluded.

The rice case again occupied the attention of the Acting Chief Justice at the Supreme Court last Wednesday afternoon. Further argument was heard and the case adjourned.

The artistic calendar for 1910 issued by the Victoria Dispensary to their patrons has the further advantage of being capable of serving the purpose of a letter rack.

LLOYD'S has abandoned all hope of the discovery of the missing Blue Anchor liner *Waratah*, which left Durban for Capetown on July 20 with 250 persons on board, including 200 passengers. The vessel is now untraceable.

SUNDAY, December 19th, being the name-day of His Majesty Nicholas II., Emperor of Russia, Mrs. P. H. Tiedemann, H. J. R. M. M. Council, was at home at his residence, 5, Park Road, to receive congratulations from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

FIFTEEN thousand dollars will be spent on anti-malarial measures at Seremban during 1910.

Mr. A. Rodger, of the China Sugar Refinery, returned to the Colony last Wednesday morning by the *Mythra* from Hongkong.

FOR stealing a quantity of stationery from the Naval Yard, a Chinaman was awarded one month's hard labour and six hours' strokes.

THE Resident of Perak has ordered that after December 31, no opium shall be imported into the State of Perak except by rail to Taiping.

THE Fokien Railway Co. has obtained a loan of Tls. 500,000 from the Ta Ching Government Bank, and work on the line has been resumed.

A CHINESE shopkeeper was last Thursday fined \$10 for keeping false weights. Inspector Goulay (Inspector of Weights and Measures) prosecuted.

TWENTY-FIVE Chinese appeared in the Police Court last Thursday on a charge of gambling at West Point. Two of the defendants were each fined \$50 and the rest \$5 each.

WE have to acknowledge from Messrs. Dodwell & Co., Ltd., the receipt of a blotter and calendar distributed by the Alliance Insurance Co., Ltd., of which they are the local agents.

MR. E. J. Grist, of the firm of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, returned to the Colony last Wednesday morning by the *Mythra* from Hongkong, after a long holiday in the home country.

THE race-horse Greyback was sold by Messrs. Hughes and Houghy by public auction, last Thursday afternoon, at Kennedy's stables, for \$120. The purchaser was Mr. L. N. Leefe.

HENRY, the brilliant Continental racing motorist, did a startling thing at Brooklands, on November 3. He beat the world's records for the flying half-mile and flying kilometre, travelling well over two miles a minute.

THE new factory of the Toa Tobacco Company, of Tokyo, established at Newchwang, opened its operations on the 2nd instant, when a dinner was given to celebrate the occasion, the Japanese officials and leading residents of the port being invited.

THE cruiser *Powerful*, of the Australian station, is expected to arrive in Colombo on the 25th instant, to receive a new crew from H. M. S. *Terrible*, which is expected from England on the same day. The exchange of crews will take place on January 1.

MR. A. M. Eschbayer, general merchant and commission agent, sends us a neat little pocket calendar for 1910.

BARON Mumm von Schwarzenstein, German Ambassador to Tokio, who has been on furlough in Europe, has returned to Japan.

A CHINAMAN was last Thursday given twelve months' imprisonment for returning from banishment. A further term of one month's imprisonment was also given him for stealing.

MR. J. O. P. Bland arrived in Shanghai on Tuesday from Peking, and with Mrs. Bland, will remain here for several weeks (with a possible interval for an up-country trip) until their departure for England.

THE *N. G. D. News* is informed that Mr. M. J. Collaco, who is thirty-three years of age, was the oldest competitor in the recent walking competition at Shanghai, and will, therefore, take the prize given to the oldest competitor finishing within the time limit.

THE Korean Press raises various objections to the suggested amalgamation of Japan and Korea, and the matter arouses the derision of the Japanese papers at Seoul. The Korean Cabinet has decided to shelve the memorial dealing with the proposed amalgamation.

MOUNT Asama, a volcanic peak in the Prefecture of Nagano, Japan, was in eruption on the 7th inst. The rumbling of the outbreak was heard in Tokyo, and several weeks later a fire to forest near the mountain and dark smoke and volcanic dust cover the neighbouring districts.

ACCORDING to the *Times of Malaya* the Resident is to be approached by a very old Perak resident for the right of collecting jungle produce, resin, damar, vegetable oil seeds, and medicinal plants in the district of Lower Perak for a period of six months as a start. This is opening up quite a new industry.

THE South Manchuria Railway Co.'s statement of accounts for the first half of the present fiscal year ended September 30 indicates the marvellous prosperity of the corporation and shows an increase of forty per cent in the gross receipts and of fifty per cent in the mining receipts on those for the corresponding term of the preceding year. The railway earnings during the said term reached Y. 5,830,000.

As a consequence of a certain private ricksha-collision at Tsing-tai-tai having accepted a number of outside fares, the Jibus in that district made bitter complaints to the local Police, who feared that there might be a strike. The offending cogs appeared before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistrate's Court yesterday and was discharged, at the same time being warned he would be liable to be prosecuted under the Servants Ordinance.

MR. Martin Egan has been placed in charge of the arrangements for the reception and entertainment of the visiting newspaper men from the China coast cities who have been invited to come to Manila for the Carnival. A number of these came here for last year's Carnival and did much good when they returned to their respective cities in describing what they had seen in Manila and throughout the Philippines, remarks the *Globe*—*American*.

WE are requested to state that the Board of Directors, members and friends of the Chinese Y.M.C.A. are welcoming Mr. and Mrs. Lerrigo to-night (18th inst.) at a reception in the rooms of that department. A short programme will include musical numbers by the Y.M.C.A. Band, European and Chinese music, welcoming addresses followed by tea and refreshments. Mr. H. Wang Tape, the president of the Association, will preside.

MR. W. E. Roberts of the North Borneo Trading Co., Ltd., has decided to cut timber on Pulau Gaya and has made arrangements to start immediately. Mr. Roberts has also been making a thorough tour of South Keppel and was a guest of Mr. H. W. J. Bunbury, the district officer, who took him round. In the near future a rubber estate may be opened there. Mr. Roberts was much impressed with the excellent land and the amount of local labour that can be obtained.

A MOST extraordinary catastrophe occurred, at Teluk Anson, on last Sunday. A Malay fisherman was sitting in his dug-out selling fish to a Chinaman, when suddenly a croc sprang up from behind, seized him, and dragged him into the water. As the croc pounced back again his tail struck the Chinaman's leg, inflicting a wound 3½ inches deep. The latter is now in hospital, but the unfortunate fisherman has not been heard of since. The affair has caused a great sensation in the town.

THE *Cologne Gazette* publishes some statistics regarding the control of Chinese railways. The total length of the lines now actually laid in China amounts to 6,300 miles. Of these 1,930 miles are under the control of the Chinese themselves, whilst of the remaining 4,370 miles 1,077 are controlled by Russia, 903 miles by Belgium, 702 miles by Japan, 684 miles by Germany, 608 miles by England, and 395 miles by France. When the lines now in course of construction are completed the total length of the country's railway system will be about 3,000 miles.

A WASHINGTON despatch of December 10 says: A cablegram from Santo Domingo reports the founding of the bank *Johanna*, bound from Hilo to Delaware Breakwater with a cargo of sugar. The captain alone was saved. The *Johanna* was a four-masted bark of 1,652 net tons of the Standard Oil Company's fleet, built in 1891, which sailed from Hilo on April 26 with a full cargo of sugar for the Atlantic coast. The vessel was in command of Captain Nickerson, and her cargo of 2,600 tons of sugar was supplied by W. F. Stevenson and Company, Ltd.

It will be remembered that some months ago the then Viceroy in Kwangtung memorialized the Throne on the subject of abolishing hereditary slavery in high families with the result that prohibition was authorized. Orders to that effect were issued for the guidance of all the provincial governments, but those orders have been ignored in some cases. The Ministry of the Interior has, therefore, once more taken up the matter and given circular instructions to all the Viceroys and Governors, asking them to give the necessary directions to their subordinates in the matter.

ON the 10th instant, the first commercial vessel flying the Chinese flag arrived in Manila, since the American regime of the islands, and created quite a stir along the waterfront. The *Taiwan*, in command of Captain Juihsien, with the dragon flag flying, passed Corregidor early and anchored in the inner harbour before nine o'clock in the forenoon. This steamer brought to Manila a full cargo of rice consigned to Ong Coping, the full amount being 30,000 piculs, which was brought at a charter price of 33 cents per picul, from Saigon. Five days were occupied in the trip over from the French port.

THE Naslin treatment for leprosy is reported to have been tried with good results on patients at the St. John's Leprosy Asylum at Mandalay, and is to be continued at the institution.

WE learn from the *Strait Echo* that it is proposed to run soon a new type of ferry-boats between Penang and Province Wellesley. The vessels have been designed after the style of the Hongkong ferry boats.

SENHOR D. Cinatti, the assistant Commissioner for the Delimitation of the boundaries of Macao, left for Europe last Saturday by the English mail s.s. *Himalaya*. There was a select gathering of friends at Blake Pier and on board to bid him *bon voyage*.

AN elephant straying on the railway track was run into by a goods train from Mandalay on the 22nd Nov. near Nyaung-U. The elephant was knocked off the track, but walked away showing no signs of serious injury. The engine was slightly damaged. Honours even.

At the Calcutta Turf Meeting a small fee of Rs. 3 is to be charged for admission into the bookmaker's Enclosure, who will be ranged near the fence so as to do duty on both sides. The number has been limited to fifteen, who deposit a substantial sum as security and pay a daily fee of Rs. 400.

MR. T. H. King has been appointed to discharge the duties of Superintendent of Imports and Exports under the Raw Opium Ordinance No. 9 of 1887, the Sugar Convention Ordinance No. 14 of 1904, and the Liquors Ordinance No. 27 of 1909, during the absence on leave of Lieut. C. W. M. Beckwith, a.n., or until further notice with effect from the 8th inst.

A FINE of \$150 was imposed on a Chinaman at the Magistrate's Court last Saturday for assaulting an Indian constable with a loaded revolver. The man was found hiding in some bushes and on the approach of the constable he emerged from his hiding-place and presented the weapon at the latter. Three cartridges were found in the revolver at the time of the man's arrest.

THE alien head tax of \$5.00 heretofore collected from passengers proceeding via America to Europe, Canada or any other country foreign to America, and from passengers who purchase in the Orient round trip transportation to American ports and return to the Orient from now on will not be collected from first-class or intermediate-class passengers of the Pacific Mail Co.

RETURN of visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending the 12th December, 1909:—

	Library.	Museum.
Non-Chinese.....	476	339
Chinese.....	256	3,111
Total.....	642	3,450

COMPLYING with Consul Koord von Wiser's request we inform the public that news about trade transactions with Christof and Johann Bismbach of Rostock in Bohemia, Austria, and about the whereabouts of these two brothers would be most welcome to the Austro-Hungarian Consulate in Hongkong from such people as may be able to furnish information of said kind.

H.E. the Governor, accompanied by Capt. P. H. M. Taylor, A.D.C., and Sir Henry May, Colonial Secretary, last Tuesday afternoon inspected members of the local Police Force in the Police compound. The men were under the command of Capt. Badley and there were also present Capt. F. W. Lyons and Mr. P. J. Wodehouse, Deputy Superintendents. The various units comprising the Force were put through various forms of drill, including firing exercises and the handling of arms, and at the conclusion of the inspection the Governor praised the smart appearance of the men. His Excellency then inspected the Police buildings and shortly afterwards left the headquarters. We understand that this is the first annual inspection of the Force by H.E. the Governor.

Two very smart captures of counterfeit coin manufacturers were effected last Sunday evening by the local Detective Department. The first raid was executed at No. 1, Ng Fuk Lane, where the party of detectives seized 131 Hongkong counterfeit dollars and 236 French piastres and arrested eight men and a woman. The scene of the second raid was No. 40, First Street, in the same district as the house where the first surprise visit was paid. Here the detectives discovered 27 Chinese 50-cent pieces, 44 Hongkong 10-cent pieces and 31 Hongkong 5-cent pieces and arrested three men and a woman. Great credit is due to Chief Detective-Inspector Hanson, Detective-Sergeant Appleton, and their posse of Chinese detectives for their smart performance.

DOCK RETURNS.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCKS.
H.M.F.M.S. Rainha at Kowloon Dock.
Amelia " " "
Hilary " " "
Rio Lima " " "
On Sang " " "
Pronto " " "

TAIKOO DOCKS.

French Gunboat Argus at Quarry Bay Docks.
Japan " " "
China " " "

Ships Passed The Canal.

16th November—*Melnam, Inveresk, Katana, Scandia, Seneca, Calhoun, 10th November—Cylon, Glanville, Mithras, Maru, Larvik, Sydney, Sarda, Mennon, Miyazaki Maru, 22nd November—Bendoran, Binalaric, Bulwer, Slenor, Atholl, Nicomedie, Schuyllkill, Tlata, 26th November—Suruga, Persim, Bulwer, Hakata Maru, P. R. Luffpold, Oceanic, Tamba Maru, Yunnan, 30th November—Brasilia, Albanga, Glenasmole, Glamorganshire, 3rd December—Tranquebar, Vorwarts, Antenor, St. George, Somali, Sumatra, Tourane, Thesus, 7th December—Dufflinger, Dinvorlich, Carnarvonshire, Liberia, Prisma, 15th December—Fedratschka, Princess Alice, Vera, 14th December—Iyo Maru, Katana.
Arrivals at Runo—16th November—Machao, Drumellan, Spirita, Tydus, 10th November—Lutov, Kanagawa Maru, Glenah, Montrose, 22nd November—Nils, 23rd November—Melnam, 26th November—Miyazaki Maru, Aragonia, Indravadi, Sydney, Hudson, 30th November—Nippon, Slenor, Glanville, 3rd December—P. R. Luffpold, Tlata, C. Fird, Zetia, 6th December—Cylon, 7th December—Bathory, Bendoran, Hakata Maru, 10th December—Glanville, Glamorganshire, Indrapura, Nicomedie, Tourane, 14th December—Ganga, Thesus.*

Dec. 18 at 10 a.m.	Dec. 18 at 4 p.m.
Barometer.....	30.33 30.31
Temperature.....	61 64
Humidity.....	41 37
Windspeed.....	

SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Supplied by Messrs. E. S. KADOORIN & Co. Corrected to noon; later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence," page 5.

STOCKS.	NO. OF SHARES.	VALUE.	PAID UP.	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT.		LAST DIVIDEND.	APPROXIMATE RETURN AT PRESENT QUOTATION BASED ON LAST YEAR'S DIV.	CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
				RESERVE.	AT WORKING ACCOUNT.			
BANKS.								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	120,000	\$125	\$125	{ \$1,500,000 \$125,000 \$1,375,000 }	\$2,007,819	{ Interim of £2 for account 1909 @ ex 1/9 = \$22.72	4 %	{ \$997 London £92.11 }
National Bank of China, Limited.....	90,925	7	6	{ \$4,000 \$30,000 }	\$30,558	\$2 (London 1/6) for 1903	...	\$65 buyers
MARINE INSURANCES.								
Canton Insurance Office, Limited	10,000	\$250	\$50	{ \$1,500,000 \$25,000 \$1,475,000 }	none	\$10 for 1908.....	7 %	\$150 sales
North China Insurance Company, Ltd.	10,000	£15	£5	{ Tls. 225,000 Tls. 22,500 Tls. 202,500 }	Tls. 206,573	Final of 7/6 making 15/- for 1908	58 %	Tls. 115 buyers
Union Insurance Society of Canton	12,400	\$250	\$100	{ \$90,000 \$10,000 \$80,000 }	\$2,454,801	{ Final of \$17 making \$47 for 1907 and interim of \$30 for 1908..... }	54 %	\$895 buyers
Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited	12,000	\$100	\$60	{ \$1,000,000 \$20,000 \$980,000 }	\$707,637	\$12 and bonus \$3 for 1907	7 %	\$230
FIRE.								
China Fire Insurance Company,	70,000	\$100	\$20	{ \$1,000,000 \$10,000 \$990,000 }	\$375,341	\$6 and bonus \$2 for 1907.....	7 %	\$118 buyers
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.,	8,000	\$250	\$50	{ \$1,000,000 \$20,000 \$980,000 }	\$358,711	\$27 for 1907	7 1/2 %	\$375 sellers
SHIPPING.								
China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited.....	30,000	\$25	\$25	{ \$7,000 \$30,000 \$23,000 }	\$1,035	\$1 for 1906	...	\$8 sellers
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	20,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$20,000 \$20,000 \$0 }	NIL	2 1/2 for year ending 30.6.1908	...	\$33
Hongkong, Canton & Amoy Steamboat Co., Ltd.	80,000	\$15	\$15	{ \$1,500,000 \$15,000 \$1,485,000 }	\$21,170	Interim of \$1 1/2 for account 1909	7 1/2 %	\$31 1/2 buyers
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. (P. referred)	60,000	£5	£5	{ £100,000 £10,000 £90,000 }	£13,755	{ 6/- for 1907 on Preference shares only @ ex 1/9 11/6 = \$3.54	...	\$61 1/2 buyers
Do. (Deferred)	60,000	£5	£5	{ £100,000 £10,000 £90,000 }	£13,755	Final of 2/- for 1908 and interim of 1/- for a/c 1909	...	68/- buyers
"Shell" Transport and Trading Company, Limited	2,000,000	£1	£1	{ £1,000,000 £100,000 £900,000 }	£68,817	\$1.00 for year ending 10.4.1909.....	4 %	\$25 buyers
"Star" Ferry Company, Limited.....	10,000	\$10	\$5	{ \$100,000 \$10,000 \$90,000 }	\$3,121	\$0.50	3 1/2 %	\$14 1/2
REFINERIES.								
China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.,	20,000	\$100	\$100	{ \$350,000 \$35,000 \$315,000 }	Dr. \$5,858	\$5 for year ending 31.12.08.....	34 %	\$150 sellers
Luxon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.,	7,000	\$1	\$100	{ \$100,000 \$10,000 \$90,000 }	Dr. \$19,801	\$3 for 1897	...	\$21 buyers
Perak Sugar Cultivation Company, Limited.....	7,000	Tls. 5	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 100,000 Tls. 10,000 Tls. 90,000 }	Tls. 6,502	Tls. 10 for year ending 31.8.09	...	Tls. 345 sales
MINING.								
Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ltd.,	1,000,000	£1	£1	{ £175,000 £17,500 £157,500 }	£1,435	Final of 1/6 making 3/- for 1909	7 %	Tls. 10.30 sales
Raub Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited	150,000	1	18/10	{ £1,180 £11,800 £10,620 }	Dr. £2,192	No. 12 of 1/- = 48 cents	...	\$7 1/2 sellers
DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.								
Fenwick (Gob.) & Co., Limited	18,000	\$25	\$15	{ \$1,000 \$18,000 \$17,000 }	Dr. \$7,421	\$1.75 for year ending 31.12.08	...	\$12
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd.,	60,000	\$55	\$50	{ \$500,000 \$55,000 \$445,000 }	\$30,102	None	...	\$61 1/2 sellers
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Ltd.,	50,000	\$5	\$50	{ \$100,000 \$5,000 \$95,000 }	\$145,162	Interim of \$1 1/2 for account 1909	...	\$52 sellers
Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd.,	55,700	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 1,000,000 Tls. 55,700 Tls. 944,300 }	Tls. 62,621	Final of Tls. 2 1/2 for year ending 30.4.09.....	64 %	Tls. 75 1/2 sales
Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf Company, Limited.....	36,000	Tls. 1	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 100,000 Tls. 36,000 Tls. 64,000 }	Tls. 22,818	Final of Tls. 6 making Tls. 10 for 1908	7 %	Tls. 128 sales
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.								
Anglo-French Land Investment Co., Ltd.,	25,000	Tls. 1	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 15,000 Tls. 2,500 Tls. 12,500 }	Tls. 4,734	Tls. 6 for year ending 30.2.09	58 %	Tls. 105 buyers
Central Hotels, Limited	50,123	\$15	\$50	{ \$1,500 \$75,000 \$73,500 }	\$24,641	\$1.20 on old and 60 cents on first new issue	...	\$17 sellers
Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited	12,000	\$5	\$5	{ \$50,000 \$12,000 \$38,000 }	\$20,372	Interim of \$2.40 on old and 40 cents on new shares for account 1909	...	\$77 1/2 buyers
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd.	50,000	\$1	\$1	{ \$10,000 \$40,000 \$30,000 }	\$26,475	Interim of 3/- for account 1909	6 1/2 %	\$102 buyers
Humphreys Estate & Finance Company, Limited	150,000	\$1	\$30	{ \$1,000,000 \$150,000 \$850,000 }	\$5,486	60 cents for 1908	7 1/2 %	\$8 1/2 sales
Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited	6,000	\$50	\$30	{ \$300,000 \$6,000 \$294,000 }	\$278	5/- for 1908	5 %	\$30 sellers
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited	78,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 1,500,000 Tls. 78,000 Tls. 1,422,000 }	Tls. 142,404	Interim of Tls. 3 for account 1909	64 %	Tls. 120 sales
West Point Building Company, Limited	12,500	\$50	\$50	{ \$100,000 \$12,500 \$87,500 }	\$1,068	Interim of \$2 for account 1909	8 1/2 %	\$44 buyers
COTTON MILLS.								
Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ltd.,	15,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 5	{ Tls. 1,000,000 Tls. 15,000 Tls. 985,000 }	Tls. 10,991	Tls. 11 for year ending 31.10.09	82 %	Tls. 134 buyers
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Company, Limited	125,000	\$10	\$1	{ Tls. 40,000 Tls. 125,000 Tls. 85,000 }	\$9,551	50 cents for year ending 31.7.08	...	\$6 1/2 sales
International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ltd.,	10,000	Tls. 75	Tls. 75	{ Tls. 175,000 Tls. 10,000 Tls. 165,000 }	Tls. 8,373	Tls. 7 1/2 for year ending 30.9.06.....	...	Tls. 75
Laou-kung-mow Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd.	8,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 10	{ Tls. 175,000 Tls. 8,000 Tls. 167,000 }	Tls. 4,839	Tls. 4 for 1908	...	Tls. 101
Sey Chee Cotton Spinning Company, Limited.....	2,000	Tls. 500	Tls. 5.0	{ Tls. 25,000 Tls. 2,000 Tls. 23,000 }	Tls. 15,911	Tls. 50 for 1906	...	Tls. 440 sellers
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited	8,604	12/6	12/6	{ \$1,500 \$12,900 \$11,400 }	\$548	15 % per share for 1908	...	\$10
China-Borneo Company, Limited	60,000	\$12	\$12	{ \$1,500 \$72,000 \$70,500 }	NIL	\$1.30 for 1908	10 %	\$12 1/2
China Light and Power Company, Limited	50,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$10,000 \$40,000 \$30,000 }	\$61,138	50 cents for year ended 28.2.06.....	...	\$6 buyers
Do. Do. special shares	50,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$10,000 \$40,000 \$30,000 }	\$61,138	80 cents for 1908	84 %	\$9 1/2 sales
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Company, Ltd.	125,000	\$10	\$1	{ \$100,000 \$12,500 \$87,500 }	\$1,807	\$1.10 for year ending 31.7.09	84 %	\$16 1/2 sellers
Dairy Farm Company, Limited	40,000	\$7 1/2	\$6	{ \$1,000 \$28,000 \$27,000 }	\$3,750	Interim of 35 cents for account 1909	10 %	\$7 1/2 sellers
Green Island Cement Company, Limited	400,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$10,000 \$400,000 \$390,000 }	\$3,750	8 cents for year ending 31.12.08	8 %	\$12
H. Price & Company, Limited	12,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$10,000 \$12,000 \$0 }	\$670	\$1 and bonus 20 cts. for year ending 29.2.09	6 %	\$20 sellers
Hongkong Electric Company, Limited	60,000	\$10	\$1	{ \$1,000,000 \$60,000 \$940,000 }	\$5,195	Interim of \$2 for account 1909	10 %	\$150 sellers
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	5,000	\$25	\$25	{ \$150,000 \$5,000 \$145,000 }	\$7,616	Interim of \$1 for account 1909	8 1/2 %	\$22 1/2 sales
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Ltd.,	60,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$150,000 \$60,000 \$90,000 }	\$27,900	{ Third of quarterly of Tls. 12 1/2 for account 1909	...	Tls. 780 buyers
Mauchamp & Co., Limited	25,000	Gs. 100	Gs. 100	{ Tls. 547,500 Tls. 25,000 Tls. 522,500 }	Tls. 316,682	80 cents on fully paid shares and 8 cents on \$1 paid shares for year ending 30.4.09.....	6 %	\$13 1/2
Peak Tramways Company, Limited	50,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$10,000 \$40,000 \$30,000 }	\$1,204	None	3 %	\$9 1/2 buyers
Philippine Company, Limited	75,000	\$10	\$20	{ \$10,000 \$65,000 \$55,000 }	Pa. 18,649	None	...	\$9 1/2 buyers
SHANGHAI-SUMATRA TOBACCO COMPANY, LIMITED								
South China Morning Post, Limited	6,000	Tls. 20	Tls. 20	{ Tls. 14,810 Tls. 75,000 }	Tls. 5,250	Final Tls. 5 making Tls. 8 for 1908	4 1/2 %	Tls. 117 1/2 buyers
Steam Laundry Company, Limited	20,000	\$25	\$25	{ none none none }	Dr. \$56,602	None	...	\$23 1/2 buyers
Union Waterboat Company, Limited	50,000	\$25	\$5	{ none none none }	\$63	40 cents for year ending 31.5.09	7 %	\$8 1/2
United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	{ none none none }	\$172	60 cents for year ending 31.12.03	5 %	\$24 sales
Watson (A.S.) & Co., Limited	90,000	\$10	\$5	{ \$46,000 \$500,000 \$5,000 }	\$342	60 cents per ord. share for year ending 31.5.09	6 1/2 %	\$12 1/2 buyers
William Powell, Limited	15,000	\$10	\$1	{ \$300,000 \$15,000 \$285,000 }	\$2,613	Final of 30 cents for 1908	6 1/2 %	\$7 1/2 sales
RUBBERS.								
Anglo-Malay Rubber Company, Limited (fully paid)	1,500,000	\$7	\$7	{ none none none }	\$782	Final of 30 cts. making 80 cts. for the year ended 30th June, 1906	...	\$3 sellers
Balgownie Rubber Estate, Limited	20,000	2/-	2/-	{ none none none }	none	Interim of 12 1/2 % for account 1909	...	13 1/2 buyers
Outfield Rubber Estate, Limited	32,550	\$1	\$1	{ none \$7,400 none }	\$11,405	20 % interim for 1909	...	\$80 sellers
Perak Rubber Company, Limited	110,000	£1	£1	{ none none none }	£2,320	2 1/2 for 1909	...	50/- buyers
Goldendale Malay Rubber Co.,	80,000	£1	£1	{ none none none }	none	None	...	50/- buyers
Highland & Lowland Para. Rubber Co. (fully paid), Do. do. (contributory)	181,454 135,546	£1 £1	£1 £1	{ none none none }	none	None	...	50/- buyers
Kamuning (Perak) Rubber Tia & Co.	910,000	2/-	15/-	{ £8,784 none none }	none	7 1/2 % interim for 1909	...	52 1/2 buyers
Do. do. A Shares	...	2/-	1/-	{ none none none }	none	...	...	nominal
Do. do. B Shares	105,000	£1	£1	{ none none none }	none	...	...	3 1/2 buyers
Kuala Lumpur Rubber Co., Limited	180,000	£1	£1	{ none none none }	none	...	...	nominal
Linggi Plantations, Limited (ordinary)	900,000	2/-	2/-	{ none none none }	1,880	3 1/2 for year ending 31.6.08	...	87/- buyers
Do. do. (7 1/2 pref.)	10,000	£1	£1	{ none none none }	none	Interim of 40 % = 2/- for account 1909	...	24/- buyers
Ragalla Rubber Company, Limited (ordinary)	22,500	£1	£1	{ £4,000 none none }	none	7 1/2 % for year 1908	...	nominal
Do. do. (8 1/2 pref.)	2,500	\$10	\$10	{ none none none }	\$6,722	1 1/2 % for year ending 31.12.08	...	\$26 sellers
Ladbury Rubber Estates, Limited	40,000	\$10	\$1	{ none none none }	none	...	...	nominal
Do. do. (contributory)	40,000	£1	7/8	{ none none none }	none	None	...	27/-
Sagga Rubber Company, Limited	20,000	£1	£1	{ none none none }	none	None	...	27/-
Sandycroft Rubber Company	1,000	£1	£1	{ none none none }	none	None	...	27/- buyers
Sekong Rubber Company, Limited.....	80,000	\$100	\$100	{ \$150,000 \$100,000 \$50,000 }	\$1,275	Interim of 30 % for 1909	...	\$7 1/2 buyers
Shelford Rubber Estates Limited	65,000	£1	12 1/2	{ none none none }	none	None	...	27/- sellers
Singapore & Johore Rubber Company, Limited	2,500	£1	£1	{ none none none }	\$850	3 % for 1908	...	25/- sellers
Sungei Choh. Rubber Estate Company, Limited.....	45,000	\$100	\$100	{ none none none }	none	None	...	\$10 sellers
Sungei Kapar Rubber Company	110,000	£1	15/-	{ none none none }	£1,448	8 1/2 % interim for 1909	...	23 1/2 buyers